

In
colour

TREVOR FRANCIS — THE NEW ENGLAND LOOK

SHOOT!

20p

5th
APRIL,
1980

ALAN
BUCKLEY
(Walsall)



GEOFF PALMER (Wolves)



25
RECORDS
TO BE WON
FREE ENTRY
COMPETITION

GARY
GILLESPIE
(Coventry)



SPECIAL REPORT

THE MIDLAND REVIVAL

BRIAN
LITTLE
(Aston Villa)



KEITH
BERTSCHIN
(Birmingham)



AN empty net six yards from the goal... that will be the most vivid memory for me of the 1980 League Cup Final. Like every kid mad on football, I'd dreamed of scoring the winner in a Wembley Cup Final and now it's happened.

That unforgettable afternoon seems a long way away now, because after the euphoria of the League Cup weekend, it was back to business on the Monday morning in the hunt for League points.

If a player can't enjoy the satisfaction of winning the Cup for too long, no one can ever take away what's happened. My name is in the history books as the scorer of the winning goal of the 1980 League Cup Final and while I soon came down to earth again, the memory will always be there.

I've had a few setbacks during my career: injuries, World Cup suspension, missing out on Argentina with my country, plus being injured when Aston Villa won the 1977 League Cup in the second replay at Old Trafford.

March 15th made them more bearable and I hope it doesn't sound too arrogant when I say I wasn't surprised we won OR that I scored. Since joining Wolves things have taken a turn for the better for me both on and off the pitch.

My injuries have gone and I've almost been an ever-present, while my Christmas marriage to Vanessa and moving into our new cottage has made me feel very

still had time to head in the rebound!

As the ball came to my feet, the only thought in my mind was that I was going to score at Wembley. Words can't describe the feeling of elation as the ball hit the back of the net and I was jumped upon by jubilant team-mates.

Forest put us under a lot of pressure in the last ten minutes. An indication of this is that when the final whistle went, I ran towards my nearest team-mate and it was goalkeeper Paul Bradshaw! The whistle brought a high sigh of relief, quickly followed by the realisation of what had happened.

I was especially pleased for the younger players, like Paul, George Berry and Mel Eves, because winning on your Wembley debut is a very special feeling.

Winning the League Cup was not all about Andy Gray's goal; it's all about a team-effort and I'm just one of the team. I must also congratulate our marvellous fans for winning the 'Final' on the terraces — they did us proud, constantly shouting their Forest counterparts.

As I went off the field, I tried to pick out my wife, Vanessa. There were a few tears in her eyes; she said to me afterwards that she never thought football would make her cry...

I'll own up that as I went up the steps, there was a tear in my eye, too. I was last up, I think, and as I walked up to the royal box my mind flashed back to the '77 Final when all the players trooped up and down the steps for nothing.

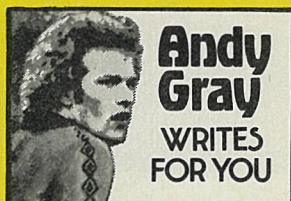
The Winner GRAY and THE FINAL VERDICT

The lap of honour was, well, incredible. Marvellous, unbelievable, tremendous... the same words all the time, but there's no other way to describe the feeling of winning at Wembley.

The start of a new era for Wolves? Who knows? All I can say is that the players at the club are winners, hungry for success. Our aim now, simply, is to finish as high in the League as possible and continue our progress next season in the League and Europe.

Football is all about tomorrow and while winning the League Cup was the highlight of my playing career, it doesn't mean a thing in terms of our game against Coventry on Saturday.

That is all that matters right now.



Andy Gray

settled as a person.

I said in SHOOT before the Final that I felt our name was on the Cup... we'd had a lot of breaks and luck along the road to Wembley and I just felt we were destined to win.

Then it seemed as if I'd miss the Final through suspension. Thankfully, my old mate from Dundee United Ray Stewart — he stayed at my place last summer along with Hamish McAlpine — netted that last-gasp penalty for West Ham against Villa in the F.A. Cup — and I was free to play in the Final.

That was typical of the luck I've had since joining Wolves and I sensed then it was an omen for me to score the winner.

I savoured this Final much more than the Villa/Everton clash three years ago. My memories of that are empty... going up the steps of the royal box and walking down again without anything... just going through the motions.

The goal? As you've no doubt seen, Peter Daniel played a long ball towards me and David Needham had it covered. Then I noticed Peter Shilton coming out and sensed something could go wrong. If Peter did shout then I certainly didn't hear him and neither did Dave. They collided, the ball ran free and I had all the time in the world to slot it home. In fact I could have miskicked and



The Loser SHILTON



SHOOT writer Peter Shilton collides with David Needham and fellow columnist Andy Gray wins the League Cup for Wolves.



I SUPPOSE somebody has to carry the can for our League Cup Final defeat by Wolves ... but I thought the criticism directed at me was a bit on the heavy side.

When we made our way dejectedly back to the dressing room I was ready to accept my share of the blame after being involved in the incident which led to Andy Gray's goal.

As I said on television, I didn't think David Needham was certain of getting the ball when it was played into our box. So I came off my line but when David didn't hear my call we ended up colliding and left Gray with the biggest present he is likely to get.

The Sunday papers were ready to pin the blame on me but although criticism is not easy to accept, I am getting more used to it these days.

Even allowing for the unfortunate incident between David and I, there was still enough going for us to have won the game.

But the longer it wore on, the more I felt it wasn't going to be our day. Wolves' ribbons were as good as on the trophy when, somehow, they managed to keep out a shot from Martin O'Neill that had goal

telegrams that flow in on such occasions. I was pleased to get one from Crystal Palace goalkeeper John Burridge and his wife and we also received a phone call from Tony Woodcock who wanted to wish us well.

The biggest talking point before the game, of course, was the decision of the boss and Peter to ask Jimmy Gordon to lead us out.

Jimmy didn't fancy the idea at first but he was more or less pushed into it and what a great moment it must have been for him.

It's an indication of the esteem with which Jimmy is regarded at the City Ground that he was asked to carry out the honour and I'm

sure he was thrilled and delighted.

That moment is one he will treasure for ever but it's just a pity that we didn't make it an even better one for him by retaining the trophy which had become part of the scene at the City Ground.

I had to stand at the opposite end and watch as Paul Bradshaw saved Wolves time and again on the big day at Wembley.

He had much more to do than me, but despite having his share of luck, he also succeeded in getting his hands, arms, legs — and other parts of his body — in the way of our goal attempts.

I thought our best players were Kenny Burns and David Needham. Burnsey has been having a great time in recent matches and it was just a pity for David that he had to be involved in the incident that cost us the crucial goal.

Peter Shilton

written all over it.

The time between Gray's goal and the final whistle fairly raced by. I thought there must be at least ten minutes left but when time is running out on you, it runs out fast.

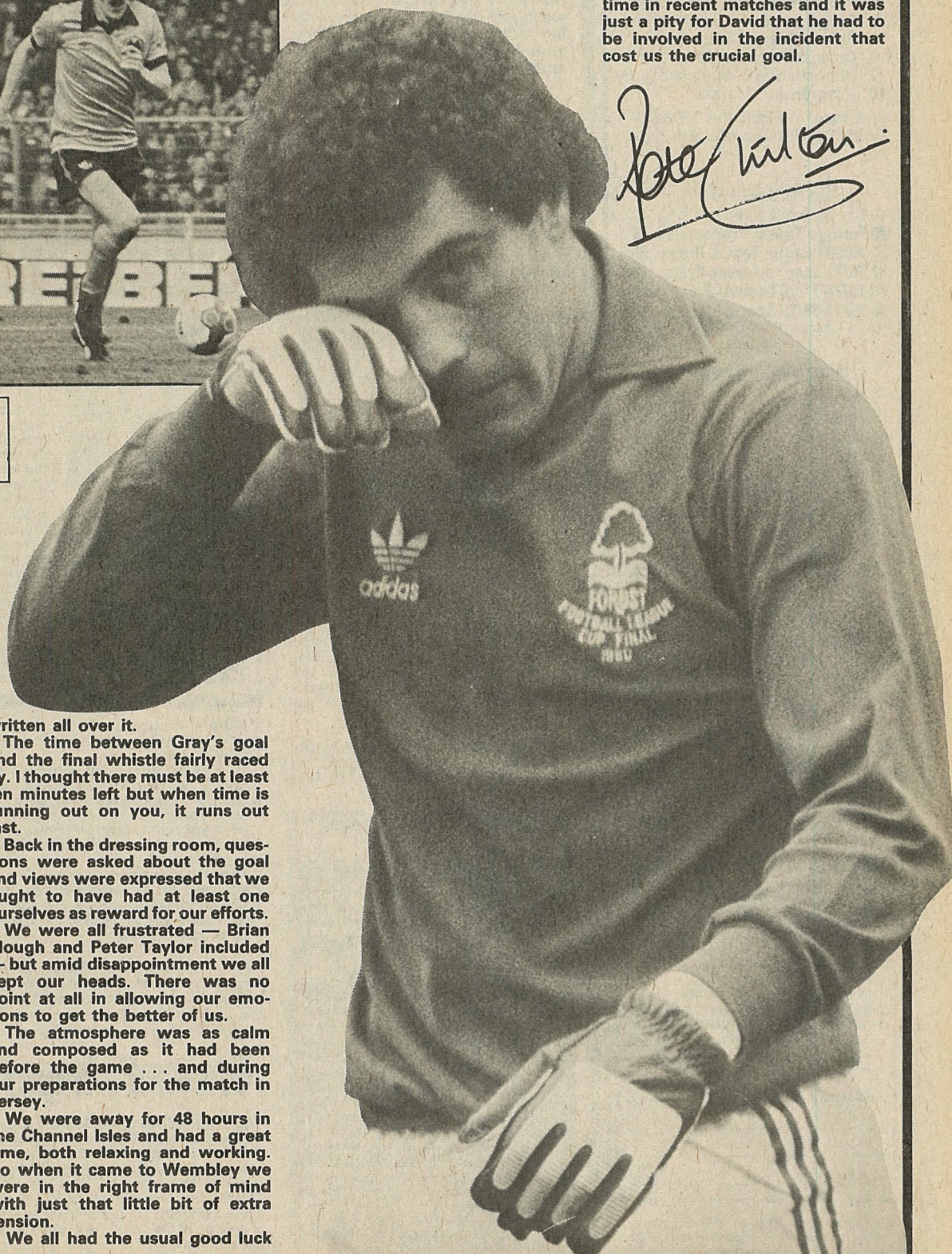
Back in the dressing room, questions were asked about the goal and views were expressed that we ought to have had at least one ourselves as reward for our efforts.

We were all frustrated — Brian Clough and Peter Taylor included — but amid disappointment we all kept our heads. There was no point at all in allowing our emotions to get the better of us.

The atmosphere was as calm and composed as it had been before the game ... and during our preparations for the match in Jersey.

We were away for 48 hours in the Channel Isles and had a great time, both relaxing and working. So when it came to Wembley we were in the right frame of mind with just that little bit of extra tension.

We all had the usual good luck



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'League football is bad'

CATTERICK

HARRY Catterick, who took Everton to two League Championships and two F.A. Cup Finals, thinks the present standards in the Football League are the lowest he can remember.

"There are too many standardised players and sometimes I think it would be easy for me to become bamboozled into thinking I was going to an action replay of the same match every week if it wasn't for the fact they were wearing different shirts," said Harry, who is now scouting for Southampton.

"I've seen all the First Division sides this season, and after I've mentioned Liam Brady and Kenny Dalglish, it's difficult to know who else I'd like to go and see."

Harry also criticises the quality of today's coaches. "Some clubs have more coaches than the National Bus Company. I can't think of any top grade coaches in the country now apart from Don Howe, Bobby Robson and the Liverpool coaching team."

The present England team also comes under his critical eye. "It is sad now that our poor club standards are also reflected in our international side. Ron Greenwood has given the players more freedom, but we are still only middle of the table in international football. In fact we only have Keegan who can be called outstanding. Look through our team and ask who would get into the Italian, West German or Dutch teams. Only Keegan, but from these teams you could name several who would walk into the England team."

The young players that impress

him are Glenn Hoddle (Spurs), Gordon Cowans and Brian Little (Aston Villa), Terry Butcher (Ipswich) and Graham Rix (Arsenal).

"There are certainly a few gems around, but unless we improve the understanding of our coaches, the supply line will gradually grind to a halt as we become a third-rate football nation."



HAL Stewart, 74-year-old managing director of Greenock Morton, is to get his own testimonial on Sunday May 4, when Morton meet a Jock Stein select side. Hal was responsible for bringing the first Scandinavian players to this country and will be the first club director to be honoured with a testimonial game.

A PROGRAMME fair will be held at Dulwich Hamlet FC, Dog Kennel Hill, London S.E.22, on Sunday, March 30th. Admission is 20p, doors open 10a.m. until 3p.m.

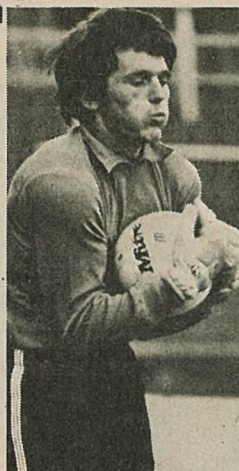
40,000 up!

FOOTBALL crowds all over the country have been delighted this season by the SuperSkills demonstrations staged at top matches by the Football Association.

The SuperSkills Scheme, now in its second year, has broken the 40,000 awards barrier.

The plan is to attract even more boys and girls to the scheme, which was devised by F.A. Director of Coaching Allen Wade, and is run jointly with the English Schools F.A., with the generous sponsorship of Coca Cola.

The importance of the scheme was emphasised by England team manager Ron Greenwood when he said: "Even the greatest players have to start somewhere and I am looking to SuperSkills to provide us with the young players who will one day be the mainstay of an exciting England team. It all begins with practice, so to all young footballers — start training now!"



ORIENT favourite Peter Bennett could be back in action by the end of the season.

He has been out for much of the season with ankle injuries and recently underwent surgery at Bart's Hospital, London where he was kept company by Paul Went who was in for a shoulder injury operation.

Orient manager Jimmy Bloomfield said he expected Peter, now training again, to make a couple of first team appearances before the end of the season.

F.I.F.A. President Joao Havelange will formally open the Northern Ireland F.A.'s Centenary exhibition, commemorating 100 years of Irish soccer, in Belfast, in early June.

However, the exhibition, displaying the history of the Irish F.A., will first be seen at the Ulster Office, in London, near the end of May, before appearing at Belfast's Maysfield Leisure Centre and at various other places in Northern Ireland.

Ormond's happy

WILLIE Ormond, the former Scotland manager who was sacked by Hearts at the beginning of the year, has settled his dispute with the Tynecastle club. This has left him free to return to Hibs where he was one of the "famous five" forwards in the 50's. He will assist manager Eddie Turnbull, who was also a member of the "five", in a coaching and advisory capacity.

...I SAY IT'S GOOD' RADDY

IT'S been a disappointing season for Notts County after their promising start to the campaign when they were considered genuine promotion contenders. Yet one of the bright spots at Meadow Lane has been the form of their Yugoslav 'keeper Raddy Avramovic whom Jimmy Sirrell bought from Rijeka.

Although promotion has passed them by for another season Avramovic has no regrets about his transfer.

He says: "In Yugoslavia we'd be good enough to win promotion to the First Division. We haven't had the best of luck and have missed a lot of chances."

"I love the English League. In Yugoslavia you know pretty well who will win. Over here, you never can tell. All sorts of things happen in the Cup, with Third and Fourth Division sides beating those in the First. This never happens in Yugoslavia."

"The fans are more loyal in England, too. They are more fickle back home."

SPURS defender Terry Naylor has lined up a novel idea for his testimonial match against Crystal Palace on April 30th. Before the game, a draw will be held to give fans the chance of making up two teams with Spurs players for a friendly match.

Terry got the idea from "pro-am" golf and says: "I'm sure the fans will jump at the chance of being able to play on the White Hart Lane pitch with their idols. The friendly will take place before the main match with Palace."

BRISTOL City are having a working holiday in Australia this summer. They have accepted an invitation to play in a tournament from May 16-25.

"All expenses for a party of 22 will be paid and there is a £10,000 prize for the overall winner," said manager Alan Dicks.

"As a club we have never been to Australia before. It should be an enjoyable trip and we will try to help the soccer authorities in Western Australia by holding coaching clinics."

PROMOTION back to the Scottish Premier Division will bring an extra bonus for Hearts players — a holiday in the sun. The club's directors have promised the players that in the absence of any invitation to tour abroad, they will be given a holiday — probably in Majorca.

Fit fans

ORIENT fans will soon be among the fittest in the country thanks to the club's physiotherapist, Bill Songhurst. He is starting fitness and physio sessions for them. Fans are invited to write to Orient for more information.



Dillon's shooting

KEVIN Dillon was more than a little disappointed when he lost his first team place to former Scottish international, Willie Johnston, at Birmingham City.

Dillon, however, has now got back into the side following Johnston's return to Vancouver Whitecaps and is determined to show that he deserves a regular place.

He demonstrated his determination by scoring after only eight minutes' play in his comeback game against Wrexham.

Dillon was more than delighted with his performance because for the past two months he has spent most of his time watching the team from the stands. He has only had one second team outing in six weeks because manager Jim Smith insisted he travelled with the first team squad.

BOOB

HAROLD Shepherdson, England's international trainer for a record number of times, travelled the world as Sir Alf Ramsey's right-hand man in England's greatest hour. Yet in an official Football Association publication, Middlesbrough's assistant-manager is listed as Harold Stephenson!

Briefly...

● Former Middlesbrough forward Ted Coleman flew 12,000 miles with John Charlton, 21-year-old son of the famous Jack Charlton, for a new life in Australia. Yet Coleman soon became homesick and jetted back to England.

Non-league Guisborough are happy that he returned and hope he makes the club a force to be reckoned with.

● Representatives of Celtic, Rangers, Partick Thistle and Hibernian have studied the underground heating system

at Coventry which cost them £40,000 to install at the start of the season.

● Drybrough's Northern League crashed 2-0 to the Cheshire County League at Bishop Auckland. So there will be a new name on the OCS Cup this season.

● Pat Dunne, the new player-manager of Shelbourne is the sixth goalkeeper to play for the struggling Dublin club this season.

● Portsmouth goalkeeper Peter Mellor is never likely to forget the greatest day of his footballing life when he played for Fulham in the F.A.

Cup Final at Wembley. And just to make sure Peter named his son, born just before the match against West Ham in 1975, Alexander James Wenible Mellor!

● Noel O'Mahony, manager of Cork United since they joined the League of Ireland as Albert Rovers in 1976, has resigned. O'Mahony and assistant Donie Wallace quit when they heard that approaches had been made to others to manage the Leeside club.

● Northern Ireland have beaten Eire at Schoolboy (4-0), Youth (3-1) and full (1-0) international levels this season.



The Scottish F.A. are trying to put an end to disgraceful scenes such as this pitch riot at Wembley after Scotland's 2-1 victory over England three years ago.

Scotland's anti-hooligan plan

SCOTLAND'S international supremos are to run a foreign travel club in an attempt to defy their hooligan supporters. Ernie Walker, the Scottish FA secretary, says: "We feel the time is ripe to have an official club for all our games abroad. It will be organised by a special staff with every member registered and they will be provided with an official identity card together with a picture.

"If we qualify for the World Cup Finals in Spain in 1982 there will be thousands of fans who will want to be there. It will make the fans feel part of the scene and will give them the opportunity to show responsibility."

Walker adds: "No tickets for games abroad will be supplied by any other source. In that way we will be able to keep a check on what's happening."

McBest

GEORGE Best will soon stop commuting from London to Edinburgh as he and his wife Angie are house-hunting in Scotland.

George recently said: "We are certainly settling in Scotland, at least for the rest of the season."



V.I.P. FAN

SPOT the famous face in the crowd, that's Labour Shadow minister for prices Roy Hattersley.

Sheffield-born Mr Hattersley is a lifelong Wednesday fan, but with his hectic life, and living away from Sheffield he finds little time to watch his favourite team play.

But when Wednesday visited Oxford recently for an important promotion game Mr Hattersley found time out to stand on the terraces with the thousands of Sheffield fans and cheer his team on to a 2-0 victory. Mr Hattersley as a lad used to stand on the Spion Kop at Hillsborough, and at Oxford he stood with the fans rather than sit in the more-comfortable directors' box.

A delighted Mr Hattersley after the game thought "We must have a great chance of Second Division football next season, and I enjoyed every minute of today's match."

Ainscow's fighting flab

ALAN Ainscow has emerged as Birmingham's most improved player this season — and it's mainly due to his determination to lose some excess weight last summer.

As a result his game has improved and nobody is more appreciative than manager Jim Smith. He said: "Alan is the kind of player who will never let you down. He has the ability to take on an opponent and this is important in any grade of soccer.

"What is also important is that he works so hard off the ball and this helps the other members of the side."

THAT busy man John Bond was glad to see one familiar face return to its rightful place at Carrow Road recently when, in the midst of selling Kevin Reeves to Manchester City for £1 million, his secretary Fiona Frith returned to work after appendicitis.

Murray has heart trouble

MARTIN Murray, who has returned to Home Farm for the second time in two years, has heart trouble.

The first was when the young Dubliner returned homesick when he couldn't settle at Everton. But he went back to Goodison last year determined to pick up the pieces of what once promised to be a brilliant career.

However, he was later to discover that he had a serious heart complaint and could no longer hope to have a career as a full-time professional.

So, he has returned to the amateur set-up at the Farm, and his only regret is that he did not complete his education before moving across the Irish sea.

Derek's horror story

DEREK Statham, West Brom's classy full-back, believes avidly in horoscopes. And no wonder after his experiences with them.

Just as he was about to go into hospital recently for a cartilage operation he read a couple of them in different newspapers.

One read: "Be careful of hurting your hand or leg. You health needs care. A medical check-up is in order."

Another one read: "You are down with a minor ailment, but health prospects look better."

"It is uncanny how often these predictions ring true," said Derek.

Last season as West Brom were about to fly out to play Red Star Belgrade in the U.E.F.A. Cup when Derek checked his stars: "You are due to do some travelling. Be careful." You guessed it — they lost!



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also 400ft b/w and colour sound
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EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

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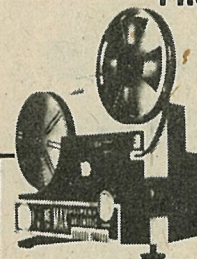
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also 400ft b/w SOUND
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'Mackay-Scotland's KING of Kuwait'

YOU don't hear too much about Don Revie or Dave Mackay these days in British soccer, but I can tell you they are treated like kings in the Middle East!

Rangers had a swift two-game tour against the teams managed by Don and Dave recently in Dubai and Kuwait and although we won both, as expected, I was impressed by the improving standards of these teams.

The fans are just as enthusiastic as ours and Don and Dave are their heroes. Actually, they are doing a wonderful job and you can see their influences in their respective sides.

Don's team had a patient build-up, trying to keep possession. They were looking for method and a blend, but I'm not too sure I believe the rumour they had studied enormous dossiers on Rangers for a fortnight before they played us!

Enthusiastic

Dave's team is more enthusiastic. They have an up-and-at-'em approach — just like the former Spurs and Hearts player during his career. I believe Dave's side beat Fortuna Dusseldorf shortly after last season's European Cup-Winners' Cup Final.

It was good to see Dave again. I remember him as a Scotland player and I know he was a great hero with manager John Greig. John was built in the mould of Mackay and he used to watch him while Dave was with Hearts, Mr. Greig's boyhood idols. I wonder if some of Mackay's unflinching style unwittingly rubbed off on the boss?

Certainly there is a similarity in their football beliefs just as there was in their play. Dave likes his sides to go forward, always on the attack, on the look-out for goals.

That's our policy at Ibrox, too.

Mr. Greig also met up with former Scottish international striker Neil Martin, that much-travelled attacker who scored so many vital goals.

Neil is now assistant to Dave and this 'double Scotch' is certainly going down well in the Middle East.

I couldn't help wondering if our former boss Jock Wallace, doing such a fine job with Leicester City these days, would have liked to manage a club out there.

He used to love taking the Rangers players out to the sands at



Dave Mackay (left) and Neil Martin (above) are proving successful in the Middle East.

Gullane and making us run up and down the dunes. Well, there's plenty of sand out beside Don, Dave and Neil!

John Greig and Neil Martin were talking about old times and they both agreed that one of the most memorable nights in their playing careers came in a World Cup-tie in 1965 against Italy at Hampden.

Neil played up-front that evening against the star-studded Italians in front of a packed full house while Mr. Greig was at right-back. It's now history that Scotland won 1-0 with a goal in the last minute from John Greig! He hit that winner from only six yards out... now that's what I call an attacking full-back!

Don Revie remains fairly quiet although the fans certainly love him and he must be a very patient man to have worked so hard on tactics and the like with his team.

I know the trio are supposed to be earning all sorts of marvellous wages in the Middle East, but I can tell everyone that they are not overpaid. It is hard graft, believe

me. They are teaching football to a nation that really doesn't know too much about it at grass roots level.

For instance, if you throw a ball at a youngster in Britain he is likely to try to trap it, bring it down and control it. In the Middle East they are just as likely to jump out of the way! See what I mean about it being hard work.

I also heard the story of one young prince whose father, it seems, owned half of Arabia. He would turn up for training driving a spanking new Rolls-Royce and then maybe do a press-up or two and drive away again!

I'm told his father also owned the club and paid the manager's wages, so there was little the team boss could do. At the same time, I don't think that prince was ever going to make the grade at football.

Anyway, it was certainly an interesting trip one way or another and it helped our new boy Ian Redford to get to know his new team-mates better. I must say I have been very impressed by Ian so far. I believe he is going to be a great player.

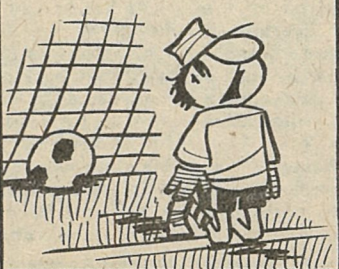
In a fortnight's time I will be answering some of the interesting mail that has been piling up in recent weeks. I've got mail from all over the world... it just goes to show you how many people buy SHOOT, doesn't it?

Derek Johnstone

**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**

NOBBY

COME ON, REF — HE WAS
OFFSIDE BY A MILE!



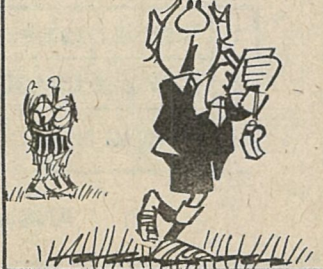
WHY DON'T YOU GET
SOME GLASSES?



WHY DON'T I GET SOME
GLASSES?



THAT'S RICH COMING FROM
A GUY WHO'S LET SEVEN IN!



PUZZLE TIME

GOALS GALORE!

Test your knowledge of big-scoring games by trying to answer these questions. If you have no idea, pass on to the next problem, a word square in which all your answers are spelt out in straight lines, horizontally, vertically or diagonally and forwards or backwards. As a guide, the first answer is given and shown on frame.

- 1 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Bristol Rovers 12-0 in 1936?
- 2 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Rotherham 8-0 in 1932?
- 3 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Southport 9-1 in 1957?
- 4 WHICH TEAM BEAT
York 12-0 in 1936?
- 5 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Carlisle 11-1 in 1939?
- 6 WHICH TEAM BEAT
West Bromwich 10-3 in 1937?
- 7 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Aldershot 8-1 in 1935?
- 8 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Exeter 9-0 in 1958?
- 9 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Ipswich 10-1 in 1963?
- 10 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Fulham 9-0 in 1959?
- 11 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Southport 11-0 in 1962?
- 12 WHICH TEAM BEAT
Crewe 11-1 in 1951?

LUTON

NOW SEEK 'EM OUT

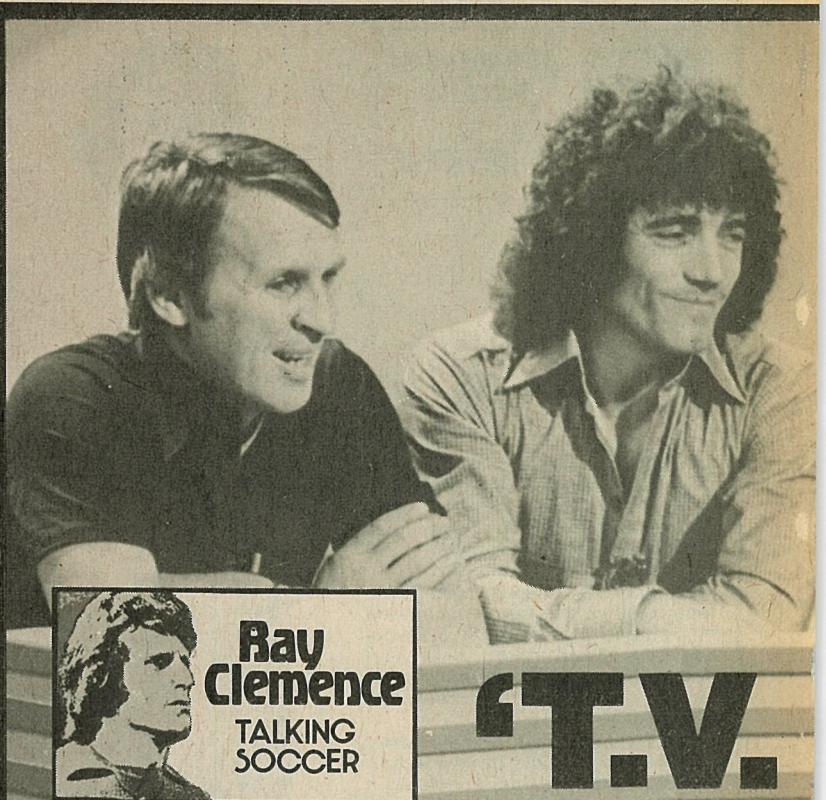
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L	N	M	T	T	E	L	O	V	U	A	O
A	C	I	E	O	H	S	L	T	O	H	Y
A	O	R	S	A	N	O	T	V	S	D	A
S	L	M	M	E	W	R	A	E	E	L	F
J	N	O	T	P	M	A	H	T	R	O	N

UNTANGLE THE TWINS

In each box, two famous football clubs have merged. Can you unscramble the letters and separate again?

1	ASK A LOST RENE	
2	SHY BEE CRADLE	
3	SPRING NEW OAT	

ANSWERS ON p.36



'T.V. good

TELEVISION must be considered partly to blame for the decline in attendances at League matches on Saturday afternoons.

I make the comment in response to a question fired at me in a letter from Bill Ward of Sheffield.

The letter said: "Do you think that televised football is the cause of the decline in attendances?"

I'm sure that there are several reasons for this sad aspect of today's game, Bill, but television must be one of them.

It's a great temptation for previous regular matchgoers to decide against braving bad weather and reconcile themselves to settling down in front of the TV set for their ration of soccer action.

Argument

But don't forget, without TV a lot of old age pensioners and young children would never get the chance to see top class games. My argument with television is that the so-called analysts spend too much time highlighting the bad things, and not enough on the skills.

They paint a black picture that must disenchant many viewers and deter them from making the effort to go to matches.

One reason I enjoy answering readers' letters is that it gives me the opportunity to comment on a variety of topics and experiences.

"Ipswich Town did you a big favour thrashing your closest Championship rivals Manchester United by six goals to nil on the same day you beat Everton at Goodison Park. Can you tell me if Liverpool have ever lost by such a stunning margin since you've been playing for them?" So writes Mike Lawson of Billericay in Essex.

No, Mike, they haven't, I'm pleased to report, but we could well have done so on the nightmare night a few seasons ago when Aston

Villa humbled us by 5-1 at Villa Park. We were so terrible, a shambles, and they so superior, they could have scored eight goals!

It was just like the Ipswich v. United game, a shocker in every sense.

Although I must point out that our defence was not as clueless as United's, and I wasn't called upon to stage the type of tremendous, headline-making performance United's Gary Bailey put on. His penalty saves must earn him a place in the record books.

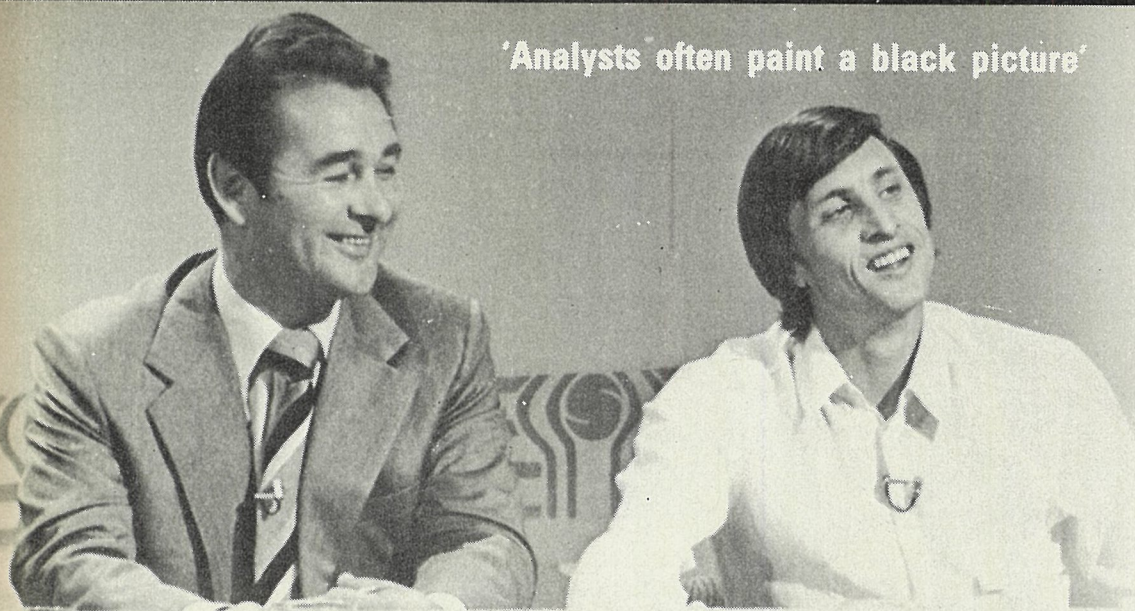
United ran into a side enjoying a fantastic run of success after a poor start to the season which brought fears of relegation to Portman Road. Ipswich had beaten Everton 4-0 at Goodison and in a display of great fighting spirit equalised against us in the dying minutes at Anfield to rob us of a precious home point.

In my opinion, the reason for United's amazing collapse was because they lacked Ray Wilkins as a shield in front of the back-four. If he had been playing his customary role, Martin Buchan would not have been pulled forward to mark dangerman Eric Gates, and Ipswich would have been denied the space which allowed them to run riot.

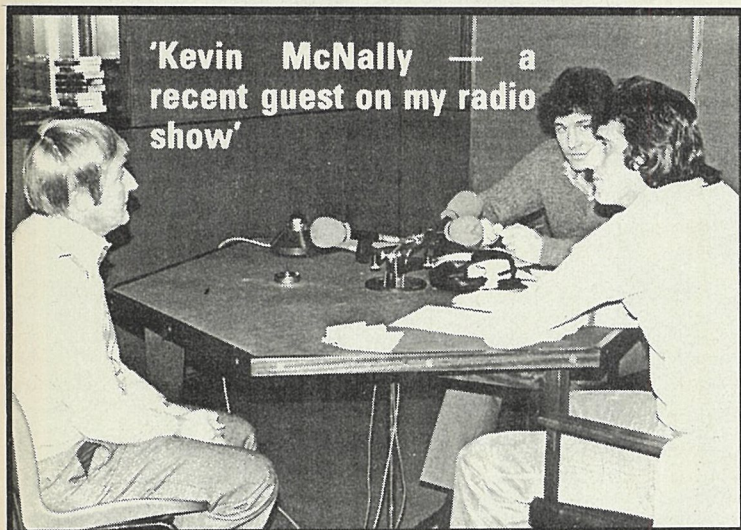
At the end of the season, when hopefully we have retained the Championship trophy, chances are we'll look back on that momentous Saturday as a real turning point. A disaster for United, and a triumph for Liverpool with a morale-boosting win over our Merseyside unfriendly neighbours Everton.

We were becoming sick of Blues supporters rubbing it in that,

'Analysts' often paint a black picture'



experts not so for soccer'



'Kevin McNally — a recent guest on my radio show'

despite our honours, we hadn't beaten their team for a couple of years.

The win also helped wipe out the bitter memory of losing to Emlyn Hughes' team, Wolves, by 1-0 a few days beforehand.

The trouble with being a 'keeper is that I'm always being asked about goals that have been scored against me, which means I have to relive some agonising moments I'd rather forget.

The goal that's excited most comment lately is Justin Fashanu's spectacular volley for Norwich City which gave them some consolation in the 5-3 defeat in the League at Carrow Road.

"Is Fashanu's goal the best put past you so far this season?" asks Jill Raymond of Market Harborough,

Leics. "And did it take you completely by surprise?"

The answer to both questions is "yes", Jill.

And I wasn't surprised when it was voted "Goal of the Month" for February on BBC's "Match of the Day" programme. I doubt if Justin will ever score a more amazing one.

Usually when a player receives the ball around the edge of the penalty box with a defender in close attendance behind him, as our Alan Kennedy was with Justin, he'll lay the ball off to a team-mate either alongside or behind him.

I suspect that was what Justin intended until he realised in a split-second he had a glimpse of the goal. He swung back his left foot and volleyed for the top left-hand corner.

I managed to get across to it, but such was the corkscrewing swerve on it I failed to get a touch and it curved over my head into the net.

I seem to make a habit of conceding long-range volleyed goals at Carrow Road. Previously Martin Peters had scored a superbly-hit one from a right-angled position.

"Being 'exiled' in London, where I work, I'm denied the opportunity of soaking up all the information about Liverpool F.C. that's available to the resident Scouser. I'd particularly like the opportunity to listen to your weekly programme on Radio City. Can you tell me more about the show?" pleads George McDermott from Islington.

Light-hearted

Incidentally, for those non-Liverpudlian readers puzzled by the word "Scouser", it's the nickname for someone born on Merseyside. I believe it originated from a local food dish.

The show, which is transmitted every Sunday between five and six o'clock, is hosted by Mick Lyons, captain of Everton, and myself, and has a simple format.

We play records by request, have competitions often with a sporting flavour, and each week interview a special guest.

More often than not, the guest is from the world of football, from one of the teams in the area. But we do have cricketers and Rugby League players.

Once we had pop star Gary Glitter, not sport-minded but an interesting character.

The interviews are usually light-hearted, but recently League referee Kevin McNally dropped in and gave a serious talk about the relationship between referees and players and how it can be improved.

I'm sorry you're unable to hear the show, George. I'll see about recording one soon and will send the tape off to you.

Reader Mark Carter from the Swansea area touches on the tragedy that marred our win over Everton — the sudden death of that club's legendary goalscoring hero, Dixie Dean.

"Did you ever meet Dixie Dean?" he asks.

On many occasions at social get-togethers, but the only chance I had to have a long talk with him was on my radio show, where he had Mick and I and the listeners enthralled with his stories about past players and games. He had a marvellous sense of humour and a stock of funny anecdotes.

I'd always admired him for his tremendous goalscoring feats, such as scoring 60 League goals in a season. He must have been a 'keeper's nightmare.

But he impressed me even more as one of the outstanding characters of the game who lived up to his reputation in every respect.

He was always so helpful and co-operative.

My Testimonial

Dixie lived for Everton, and it was particularly ironic he should pass away at the first derby game he'd ever watched. His previous appearance was as a player several decades before.

One match I've a particular vested interest in urging people to attend is my testimonial on Tuesday, April 29th at Anfield — and not simply because the revenue will help my fund.

It promises to be a colourful, exciting game with Liverpool pitted against one of Belgium's crack sides, Anderlecht.

Our last meeting — in the second-leg of the 1978 Super Cup — was so shrouded in fog, spectators couldn't see the entire pitch, and it was christened "The game that never was".

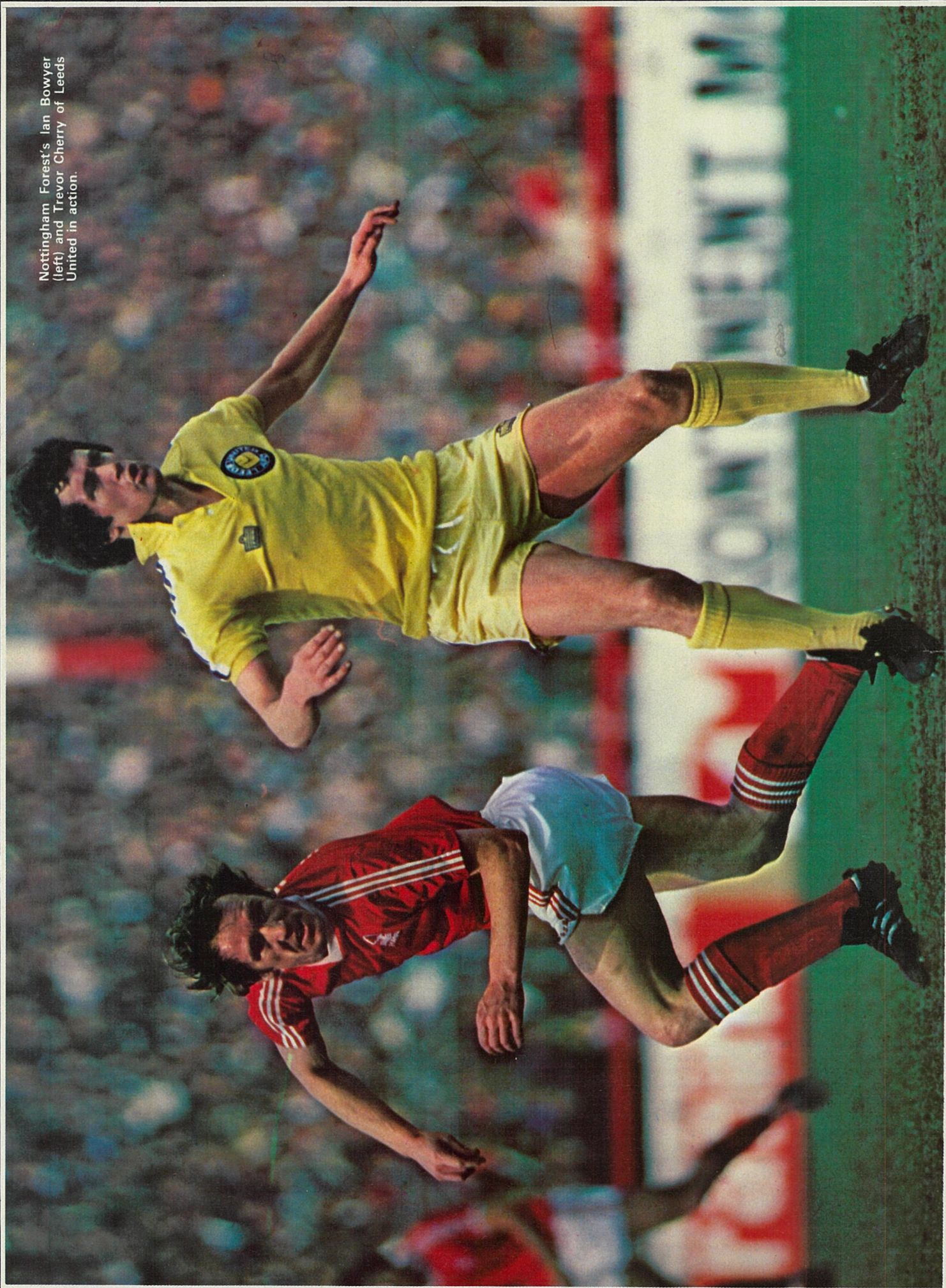
Although we won it, we lost the Cup on aggregate scores.

There's the opportunity to go some way to settling a regular talking point on Merseyside: would Kenny Dalglish and Kevin Keegan have combined to form a great striking force if Kevin had stayed with Liverpool?

Tickets for the game are available now at normal League prices. Postal orders should be made out to "The Ray Clemence Testimonial Fund" and sent to Anfield with a stamped self-addressed envelope.

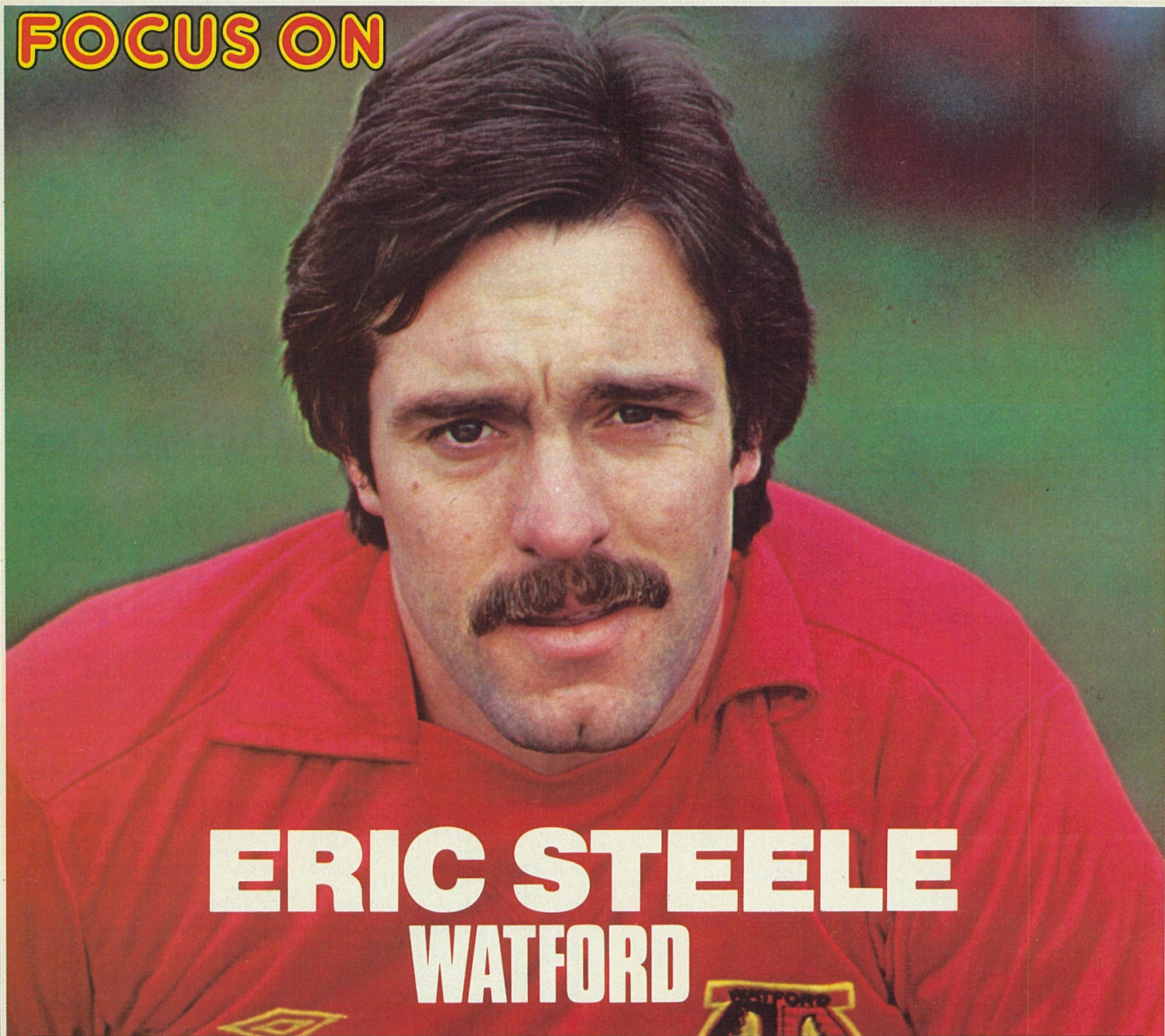
Ray Clemence

Nottingham Forest's Ian Bowyer
(left) and Trevor Cherry of Leeds
United in action.



SHOOT!

FOCUS ON



ERIC STEELE WATFORD

FULL NAME: Eric Graham Steele
BIRTHPLACE: Wallsend, Northumberland
BIRTHDATE: 14th May, 1954
HEIGHT: 5ft 11ins
WEIGHT: 12st 2lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Newcastle United, Peterborough and Brighton
MARRIED: To Carol
CHILDREN: No
CAR: Fiat X19 Sports
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Liverpool's Kenny Dalglish
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Whoever Watford beat
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: No comment!
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Defeating Newcastle 3-1 away last season to clinch promotion to the First Division with Brighton
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Missing out on promotion in 1977-78 after

gaining 56 points
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Italy and Holland
FAVOURITE FOOD: Veal and Lasagne
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Driving, coaching and admiring other sports
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Smoking, queueing for cinemas and cheats in football
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Call My Bluff, Star Trek and the Morecambe and Wise Show
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Earth Wind and Fire, Doobie Brothers and George Benson
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Paul Newman and Joanna Lumley
BEST FRIEND: I've many
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Peter Kurtney (Wallsend Boys Club) and John Barnwell
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Hangers on!

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: England Youth caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To gain security and to live happily
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To help Watford to the First Division and stay there for the rest of my career
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? More secure and teaching mentally handicapped children
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Golfer Jack Nicklaus

Eric Steele

JUSTIN Fashanu, the Doctor Barnardo's boy who became an England international, still cherishes a secret ambition ... and it's got nothing to do with football.

Despite an important place in Norwich City's exciting future — and the promise of more recognition from Ron Greenwood, who's already picked him for the England "B" team, Fashanu has his sights set on becoming Britain's answer to Muhammad Ali!

As a schoolboy in Norfolk, Fashanu proved himself one of the best young boxers in Britain, reaching the Amateur Boxing

"Some of them try to wind me up by asking if I'm going to take a punch and that sort of thing, but it doesn't bother me. They know I can box and they might just be worried that I could turn nasty — which I wouldn't, of course."

But Justin admits that his boxing training has helped him enormously in football. "Boxers try to intimidate you and you soon learn that just because they're big, they're not necessarily good. And it's the same with defenders. I'm not afraid of them — and I think that fear is one of the biggest things that stops strikers scoring goals — putting themselves in

where it hurts."

At six feet one and 12-and-a-half stones, Justin is superbly built to withstand the physical side of First Division football. But is he skilful enough to stay at the top?

"I've got to admit that I didn't see much of him at all when he first came along," says Norwich manager, John Bond. "I thought he was just big and awkward and I wasn't sure he could make it. But, about a year ago, we were short of a first team striker and my assistant, Ken Brown, suggested Justin."

"What I actually said to Ken was — 'You must be out of your mind'

tions, naturally. I've seen Kevin Reeves on television in an England shirt and thought — 'I wouldn't mind having a go at that' — and I'd love to win something with Norwich. It's a magic set-up here and the people in Norfolk have been so fantastic towards me."

Fashanu was born in London of a Nigerian father and moved to East Anglia as a youngster when he came under the care of Doctor Barnardo's Homes.

"These days I'm not only playing for myself," says Justin. "But for all the Doctor Barnardo's boys and girls who've not had the opportunities I've had. I want to succeed

FASHANU STILL WANTS TO BE A BOXING CHAMP

Association's junior Finals.

When Norwich City snapped him up and offered him a full-time career in football, the boxing had to stop. But Fashanu hasn't given up the noble art for ever.

Said Justin: "You never know. I'm a heavyweight and 'heavies' don't develop properly until their mid-20's. Don't forget I'm still only 18 — I can get much bigger and stronger." And that's bad news for the First Division centre-halves who've already found this likeable extrovert quite a handful.

— those were my exact words! But Ken managed to change my mind and we gave Justin his debut against West Bromwich Albion.

"He played, and caused all sorts of problems for two experienced defenders, John Wile and Alistair Robertson, and has just gone on from there. He's been a revelation."

Those sentiments are supported by Justin's former partner in the Norwich attack, England's Kevin Reeves: "There are few strikers who get up to the ball so well and head it with such power. He's a really good, old-fashioned type of centre-forward. If he carries on making such progress, he'll be a world-beater."

Justin himself is more cautious about his football future. "I've got to be careful to keep my enthusiasm and strive for greater consistency," he says with honesty. "But I have got my ambi-

for them."

And succeed he has! It seems incredible that Fashanu has been playing First Division football for only a year, yet is now rated in the £400,000 class. And if anyone doubts that valuation — just ask one of the world's top goalkeepers, Ray Clemence, of Liverpool and England.

"In our recent game against Norwich at Carrow Road, Justin scored one of the best goals I've ever had put past me," says Ray. "He turned and hit a dipping, swerving shot from 20 yards and he did it so quickly it was in the net almost before I could move. It was on television — so it must be a candidate for Goal of the Season."

So, the football future looks bright for Justin Fashanu ... and even if things do go wrong, he can always turn to his second love, boxing. This Sporting Superman has it made!



Justin Fashanu must concentrate on football for the moment, but still hopes to emulate Muhammad Ali (right) in the boxing world.

WHEN West Ham splashed out £400,000 to sign Dundee United's Scottish Under-21 full-back Ray Stewart there were many who doubted their wisdom.

No one believed Stewart wouldn't make the grade, but they still thought the Upton Park side could have got a similar player of the same quality for less than half what they paid for Stewart.

That player was Partick Thistle's Brian Whittaker, the stylish left-back who had been linked with The Hammers only months before they decided to go for the Tannadice starlet.

Whittaker is typical of the new generation of all-round players, and he says: "The days when defenders were in the first team because they were big and heavy have long since gone.

"A defender has to be as quick-thinking as a midfielder player, as fast as a winger and as sharp as a forward whenever an opportunity

Brian Whittaker— **THE FIRHILL FLIER**

arises to have a shot at goal.

"There aren't many back-four men whose job is simply to break down the raids of opposing teams."

Whittaker fits the role of the modern-day footballer superbly. He has grace, elegance and control. There is nothing awkward about his style when he decides to dash into attack with the rest of his forwards.

"I work at my skills," says Whittaker. "Tackling may be first and foremost for a defender, but it is equally important to be able to contribute something up-front."

Bad luck

It has been Whittaker's bad luck that Scotland have always been fairly well off in the full-back berths.

Otherwise the Firhill Flier might have expected to pick up a cap or two in his career. His only representative game so far was a surprise.

"Scotland's World Cup team were due to play at Ibrox on a Sunday in a testimonial for John Greig," says Whittaker. "However, there was a panic in final arrangements just before the game and some of the players got held up in their travels.

"I was rushed into the Scotland side at left-back and played the entire game. I didn't expect to be at Ibrox at all that day!

"In fact, things got so chaotic that my Firhill mate Alan Rough might have had to come on as a

substitute in an outfield position because we were so short of players.

"Jim Blyth played in goal that afternoon and Rough was on the bench, but the way things were going it looked as though he might be called on at any stage. Things were haphazard, I suppose, and the Scots team eventually lost 5-0.

"Still, it was a great experience to line up alongside players such as Gordon McQueen, Joe Jordan, John Robertson and the others. It was good to be invited to play... even if it was at the last moment!"

Certainly Whittaker must have done enough to show John Greig that he was top class material because one season later, when Greig became the Rangers' manager, he made a £100,000 plus bid for the Firhill defender.

That move got no encouragement from Thistle boss Bertie Auld and while Greig pondered about making a new bid, Ally Dawson came out of the Rangers reserves in the left-back spot and played so well that he won Under-21 international recognition.

There is little doubt that Whittaker's time will come. Until then he is quite content to play with Partick Thistle, sharpening his finely-honed skills and constantly proving to rival players and teams that he is a defender with the ability to attack with pace and perception.

If there are other English teams looking for another 'Ray Stewart' they need look no further than Firhill.

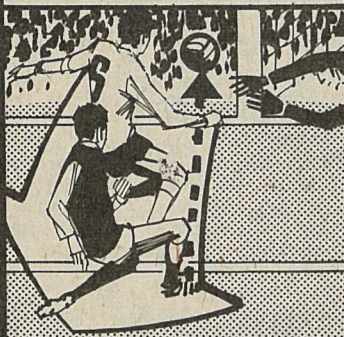


YOU ARE THE REF

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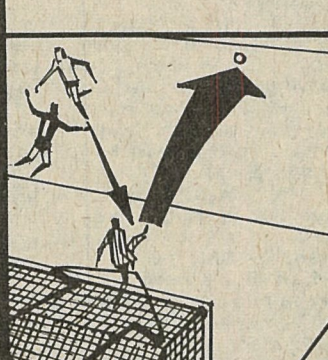
1

An attacker, in a good position to score, is pushed accidentally by a challenging defender and the ball goes over the goal-line outside the posts. Should you award: (a) an indirect free-kick to the attacking team, (b) a penalty-kick or (c) a goal-kick?



2

The ball is going into goal when a defending substitute runs on to the pitch and kicks it away. You stop play and caution the sub. Should you award: (a) a goal, (b) a penalty-kick, or (c) an indirect free-kick?



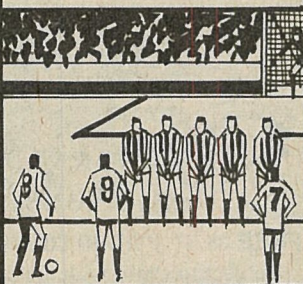
3

A team's coach rushes on to the field and kicks an opposing team's player. You stop play and send off the coach. Should you restart with: (a) an indirect free-kick, (b) a drop ball or (c) a direct free-kick?



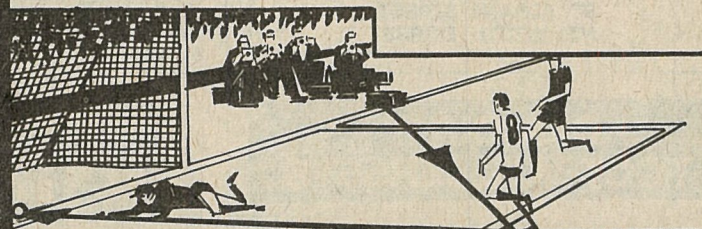
4

An indirect free-kick is awarded in the penalty-area against the defending team just before time runs out in the first-half. Should you: (a) await the outcome of the kick, (b) blow immediately the ball is kicked or (c) blow for time?



5

The ball is about to go out of play over the goal-line from an attacker's shot, when it strikes a photographer's case. The ball rebounds to the attacker who scores. Should you: (a) award a goal, (b) restart with a drop ball or (c) award a goal-kick?



ANSWERS

1. A goal-kick (c). 2. A goal-kick (c). 3. A goal-kick (c). 4. Blow for time (c). 5. Restart with a drop ball (b).

ANDY'S HAPPIEST AT HOME NOW

ANDY Crawford, the goalscoring hero of Blackburn Rovers, has one aim — to win promotion with the Ewood Park club.

"It would cap a marvellous season for me," says the 21-year-old striker. "Rovers are in with a good chance. The pressure is not on us because we have been on the fringe and other clubs have been in the limelight. To clinch a coveted promotion spot we must continue to be consistent. And we are quite capable."

"Blackburn struggled at the start of the season but we've now found our feet and look a solid team. Having a settled side has obviously helped. Following relegation last season, manager Howard Kendall was forced to make a lot of changes."

"Nowadays we can play badly but pick up two points, whereas before it was the opposite. There were certain aspects of our game which simply were not right. Now we're playing fluent football."

Crawford, born in Filey, began his career at Derby making his debut in season 1977-78 against Liverpool on February 14th. "I scored the first goal in our 4-2 win," he says.

That campaign Andy played three first team games and last term made 12 appearances scoring four goals.

"I felt that I'd established

myself," he says, "but at the beginning of this season, when Colin Addison took over, I found I was having to prove myself again."

"I finally got my chance, after being in the reserves, and I managed to score Derby's first goal of the season after six games. It came against Middlesbrough as we drew 1-1 at home. We followed that with a 3-2 win against Arsenal, but to my surprise I was dropped after that."

"It was pretty obvious they didn't want me at Derby. Fortunately, Blackburn inquired for me at the same time. As I didn't figure in Colin Addison's future plans I decided to accept Blackburn's £50,000 offer."

"It was an ideal move for me because it meant a regular first team spot. I wasn't worried about dropping down a couple of Divisions. In fact, I could even be lining-up against Derby in the Second next season."

"Manager Howard Kendall had not seen me play many times before making a bid. I knew he was watching me on one occasion and



Blackburn players celebrate another goal from striker Andy Crawford. He had the distinction of scoring in the first four rounds (below, against Fulham) of this season's F.A. Cup competition.

the following day he wanted to see me. He must have been suitably impressed and I became a Rovers player."

Crawford describes himself as an out and out striker. "My main asset is that I'm always likely to score," he says.

And Andy proved that by scoring in every tie leading up to the Fifth Round games against Aston Villa in Blackburn's memorable F.A. Cup run.

"It's the first time I've ever been involved in anything like that," he says. "It was fabulous while it lasted. The whole town was caught up with the Cup fever."

"We surprised many critics with the quality of our football and proved we've got a good team. I didn't score in the Villa ties, but they were very close games with Villa finally winning in the replay."

'Strong'

"The turning point at Villa Park came when Allan Evans moved into attack. He's strong and climbed to a header which many players wouldn't have reached."

"I don't mind who I play against. Defenders usually tower above me because I'm only five feet six inches tall but it doesn't make any difference."

"The fans at Blackburn have accepted me. They have been tremendous. I really look forward to our home games whereas it used to be the opposite and I'm sure that at the end of the season we will all have something to celebrate — promotion."



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McNAB'S LIFELINE



Neil McNab believes that Brighton's defeat of Bolton was the start of the slide for his former club this season.

DESPITE playing as substitute for Brighton in their crushing 5-1 defeat by Southampton, Neil McNab, who joined The Seagulls from Bolton for £250,000, is convinced Alan Mullery has thrown him a lifeline after his brief but traumatic stay at Bolton.

"I want to continue playing in the First Division, which didn't look too hopeful at Bolton. Brighton aren't out of trouble themselves, but if I thought they'd go down I wouldn't have joined them," McNab stressed.

"Brighton are also a friendly club," McNab added. "The manager seems very ambitious."

Potential

It was the potential, first spotted by Bill Nicholson six years ago, which made McNab a target for Mullery. When he first inquired about him some months ago, Bolton's then manager, Ian Greaves, said he could not recommend him while the tragic and untimely death of his 43-year-old father was still hanging on his head. But Mullery admitted to being delighted at signing Neil in February when injuries to Gerry Ryan and Peter Sayer had effectively cut his first team squad to 12.

"Neil's still learning at the moment, which is why I didn't play him straight away. But if he can continue where he left off at Spurs I'm convinced that in three years time he'll be a very good player," Mullery commented.

Although Bolton reached the last 16 of the F.A. Cup, McNab finds it hard to pinpoint one particular reason for their disastrous season in the League. Ironically, he feels that the rot started when Bolton played Brighton at The Goldstone Ground in September. "Before that match Bolton had beaten Southampton and drawn with Aston Villa and Liverpool

which had put them in the top six. Then they came to Brighton, lost 3-1 which resulted in the team collapsing as very little has gone right since.

"I know they won't give up," McNab went on. "They've got some good players. But realistically they've got to try and look to next season by bringing in some new faces.

"To my way of thinking," McNab said, "Bolton were crazy to sack Ian Greaves, who's done a great job for the club over the last three years. People find it hard to believe that he and I got on well after I was left out of the team but he was always straight and honest with me which is why I've got a high regard for him."

But with the benefit of hindsight McNab admits that his £250,000 move from Spurs to Bolton in October, 1978 was the biggest mistake of his life.

"They made me what at the time was a good offer which was important and although the arrival of Villa and Ardiles was another reason, it certainly wasn't as important a fact as it's been made out to be.

"Certainly if I could have foreseen what was going to happen at Bolton I would never have gone there and I don't mind people knowing that," McNab reflected.

His father's death proved the final blow for McNab, who admitted to having hit rock bottom before he signed for Brighton.

"He was an inspiration to me and taught me all I know about the game. I couldn't think about football when he died and I'm only too aware that I haven't done myself much good in the last five months.

"Now, I realise it's up to me to get back to the top — if only for his sake — and I'm looking forward to doing this with Brighton as well as aiming to get back into the Scotland side."

EVEN though little has gone right for Fulham this season, Teddy Maybank, who moved back to Craven Cottage on a £150,000 transfer from Brighton just before Christmas, is confident that his club will still be in the Second Division next season.

"We're too good a side to go down and although we haven't been getting good results recently we've not been playing like a Third Division club," Maybank explained.

While Maybank — who Brighton signed for £238,000 from Fulham two years ago — could be said to have returned 'home', there were few of his former playing colleagues to welcome him back.

"Although most of them have moved on they've been replaced by some fine players, especially Richard Money. I think we're as good a side on paper as we were when I joined Brighton," Maybank commented.

"There's also some healthy competition for places," Maybank continued, "and at the moment there are about six strikers to choose from including Peter Kitchen, Gordon Davies, and Tony Mahoney."

sion but if I thought I was too good for the Second I wouldn't have gone back. At the moment it's a question of us regaining our confidence with a few results rather than buying players.

"It's a similar situation to Brighton's," continued Maybank. "Everyone was writing them off and then they had a good run which pulled them out of immediate danger."

From what he has seen of this season's Second Division Maybank fancies Chelsea, Q.P.R. and Sunderland as the three most likely promotion candidates. But it's going to be a tight finish.

"It's the same at the bottom although it frightens me to look that far down. I shall be happy if we finish fourth from bottom," Maybank commented.

But whatever happens to Fulham Maybank has decided to settle there as he showed by signing a three year contract.

"Last time I only stayed nine months because the club were in financial difficulties and we parted on the best of terms. I'm happy to be back and everyone seems to have accepted me which is the way it should be."

HAPPY RETURN FOR MAYBANK

Maybank's future at Brighton was put in doubt when he only managed to score three goals in 14 matches. The arrival of Ray Clarke from Bruges prompted him to ask for a move and a subsequent suspension — following an argument with Alan Mullery during a reserves match — made Maybank feel he had little to offer the First Division newcomers.

"It had crossed my mind before Bobby Campbell came in for me to go back to Fulham as I had a lot of friends there. I also didn't see any point in just melting away in the reserves, which made Fulham's offer a wonderful opportunity to get back into first team football.

"I don't think it's good to play for a struggling club whether it's in the First or Second Division," Maybank went on. "But when things came to a head at Brighton they were struggling and I wasn't happy which makes me certain I made the right decision to go."

Despite helping Brighton win promotion last season, Maybank never managed to become a favourite with the Goldstone crowd which was another reason for his disenchantment.

"I had a leg injury when I first came down which turned out to be a cartilage. After eight games I hadn't done particularly well through not being able to run and this got the crowd on my back," Maybank reflected.

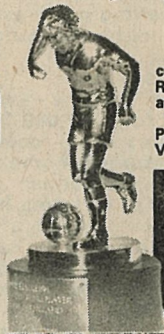
However, Maybank found few problems in returning to Second Division football and playing in front of the comparatively sparse crowds.

"Obviously there's a difference between the First and Second Divi-



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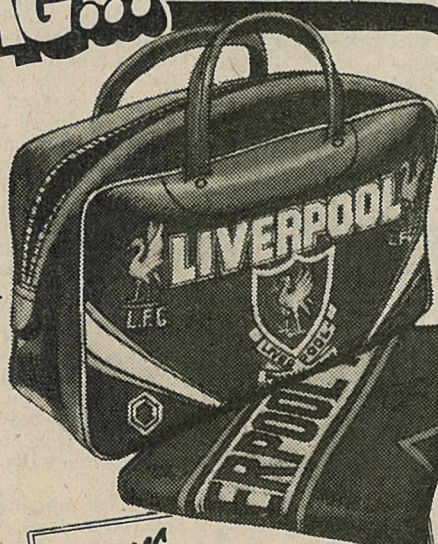
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STRIKER STEVE IS BEST IN DEFENCE

STEVE ARCHIBALD considers his best position is sweeper and that is quite amazing when you consider he is currently terrorising rival defences with his lightning reflexes in the Aberdeen forward line.

The extremely-talented and mature 23-year-old, who has been the subject of transfer speculation this season, has been a model of consistency although it is fair to say that he has taken more than his fair share of batterings from rearguards who haven't worried too much about their tactics.

"Yes it can get frustrating at times," says Archibald. "You get whacked from behind and it hurts, believe me. But what can you do? You can't retaliate because that automatically leads to an early bath and that helps no one but the opposing team."

"It would be nice to get more protection, but, let's be honest, the referee has a difficult enough job at the moment. He can't possibly be expected to see everything that is going on round about him."

"I'm a professional footballer, paid to help Aberdeen to success, and I do that to the best of my ability. I try not to let things upset me when I feel I have been fouled badly. That can ruin your concentration and that in turn interferes with your job."

In one game this season Archibald took punishing stick from the central defenders of a team visiting Pittodrie and if he hadn't sidestepped one challenge he would, in the words of an onlooker: "been cut in two!"

"I had a spell of playing in defence for my first club Clyde and I didn't go around whacking every body."

"Actually, I found it enjoyable playing in the back-four and I feel sweeper is a position I could settle into happily later in my career."

"It's good to see play coming towards you and trying to antici-



Archibald (left) has scored regularly for Aberdeen this season.

pate what your rivals are going to do. I like to 'read' a situation properly and then turn defence into attack with a long ball. A return to that position wouldn't

break my heart." Unfortunately — or fortunately? — the consistency of Archibald in the goalscoring stakes means that a shift into a back-four will come at

a very late stage in his career. In this day and age a natural goalscorer is worth his weight in gold and Archibald is a youngster with great talent in the forward line.

He leads the Pittodrie attack with marvellous intelligence and vision. He has been blessed with the skills of an outstanding midfielder and he can also drop into this role whenever the occasion arises.

But his skill at snapping up goals in crowded penalty-areas has rocketed him into the £750,000 bracket. Obviously Aberdeen will have difficulty in hanging on to their hottest piece of property.

Valuable

Archibald can create chances as well as finishing them off as he has demonstrated so superbly this season. He has been the proverbial thorn in the side of the Old Firm and he has netted some vital and valuable goals against them with his elusive penalty box style.

But in his side's 3-2 League triumph over Rangers, Archibald showed his creative ability after scoring the equalising goal with only minutes remaining. He pulled down an awkward ball with an Ibrox defender almost sitting on top of him and released a glorious ball into the path of young Derek Hamilton who stroked it wide of the helpless Peter McCloy for the winner.

It was ironic that Archibald should play in such devastating fashion against Rangers. Around that time a Scottish newspaper asked Premier Division managers to name their ideal sides from Top Ten teams, excluding their own players.

Archibald got everyone's vote except Ibrox boss John Greig! We wonder if the Rangers' manager, who rarely makes a mistake on or off the field, would change his mind now.

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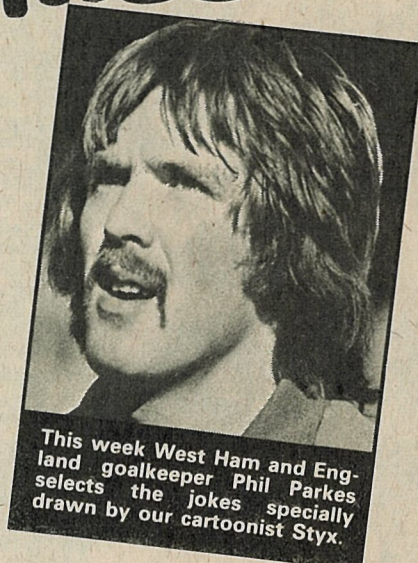
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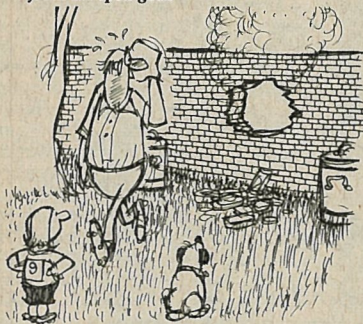
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"Rather ironic. We can shoot a rocket 239,000 miles and hit the moon, yet with a ball, five yards from an open goal —"



This week West Ham and England goalkeeper Phil Parkes selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.

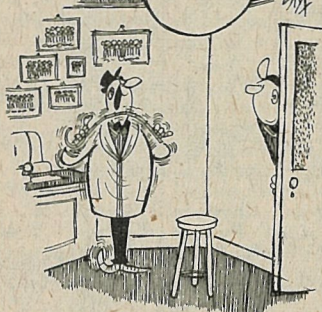


"We're only practising, son. I wish you wouldn't shoot so hard"

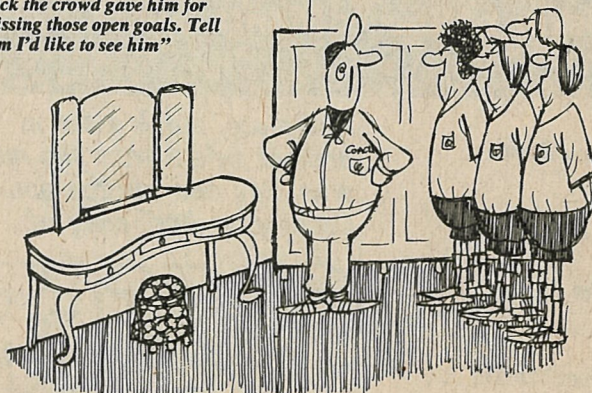
"I got sold so many this afternoon, he's made me the Dummy of the Month"



"Next time you kick someone that tough, use your instep, not your toe"



"I hear our number nine is moaning about the amount of stick the crowd gave him for missing those open goals. Tell him I'd like to see him"



"Our new star striker wouldn't sign unless he was allowed to have his own dressing table"

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This week's Star Letter comes from F. J. Riley of Skelmersdale in Lancashire, who wins our Special Prize of £5. He writes:

BUNDESLIGA NOT BEST

I READ with interest the article "Bundesliga Is Best" in World Wide, claiming the West German League is better than the English First Division based on success in Europe.

The facts were selective and proved little. England has provided the European Champions in the past three seasons and England have had four European Cup winners to West Germany's three. It's the same figures for the Cup-Winners' Cup.

In the U.E.F.A. Cup, the writer had his strongest argument this year. But 1979/80 is untypical and English clubs have won the Cup seven times to the Bundesliga's two.

Regarding strength in depth, the record speaks for itself.

The article said that the Bundesliga was stronger AT THE MOMENT (and, let's face it, in football it's only the present that really matters). My own view is that the English First Division has become weaker in recent years, Liverpool apart, and teams who finish sixth or seventh aren't as good as their counterparts from, say, 1976.

Fair award?

BELL's Whisky announced the Managers of the Month recently and John Lyall of West Ham won the Second Division award.

Although The Hammers were doing well in the F.A. Cup, they did NOT win every game they played, which Shrewsbury Town did.

They played four matches and won them all, scoring 11 goals and conceding four. They also beat Nantlle in the Welsh Cup, for the record.

Is the award for the Manager of the Month, or the Manager of the Month with a big club?

JOHN LANGLEY,
CORWEN.

Graham Turner has done a fine job steering Shrewsbury to safety in Division Two, but inevitably the more glamorous clubs receive most attention.

Ray was right

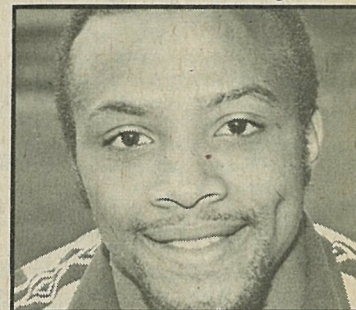
MY congratulations to Ray Clemence. At the start of the season he wrote that he thought West Brom would be one-season wonders.

I'm a loyal fan and it hurts to

admit Ray has been correct.

NICK THORNE,
OXFORD.

Since Cyrille Regis's (below) return Albion have looked more like their old selves, though.



Hosts favoured

CONSTANTLY, over 24 years of European soccer, a European Final has been held in the country of one of the Finalists. Many times hosts have triumphed.

Venues for Finals should be selected after the Semi-Finals and not at the beginning of the season.

IAN SHORT,
GRIMSBY.

That would leave just a few weeks to organise the Final and it's far too big a task to be done so quickly.

Pen-pal

I'M 22-years-old and I support Liverpool and Feyenoord. I'd like to have pen-pals in England willing to exchange souvenirs etc.

FRED MOERMAN,
CALLENBURGSTRAAT 117,
3134GC VLAARDINGEN,
HOLLAND.

Crazy ideas

IF the ideas put forward by Ted Croker for soccer reform were to be adopted, it would kill off forever the Third and Fourth Division clubs.

"Hope springs eternal" — if there is to be no promotion, elevating to a higher Division by selection only if the facilities are approved, it will become (even more than now) a Cheque Book Sport.

It surely must be the craziest idea ever put forward by a top legislator. All the great clubs had the most humble of origins. If this proposed legislation had been in vogue 100 years ago, half the clubs in the present First Division would never have been heard of.

P. ROBERTS,
CHELMSFORD.

I'm in favour of anything that would improve the game, but some of Ted Croker's ideas seemed strange.

'Big crowds will make me a better player'

says Kevin Reeves

MANCHESTER City represent everything Kevin Reeves ever wanted out of football. But the 22-year-old England striker still can't get over how upset he felt when his dream of joining the big-time was about to come true.

Reeves, the fourth £1 million player in League football, pocketed £50,000 as his share of the transfer from Norwich City, enough to guarantee security for his family.

But it was much tougher than he anticipated to make the break with homely Norfolk.

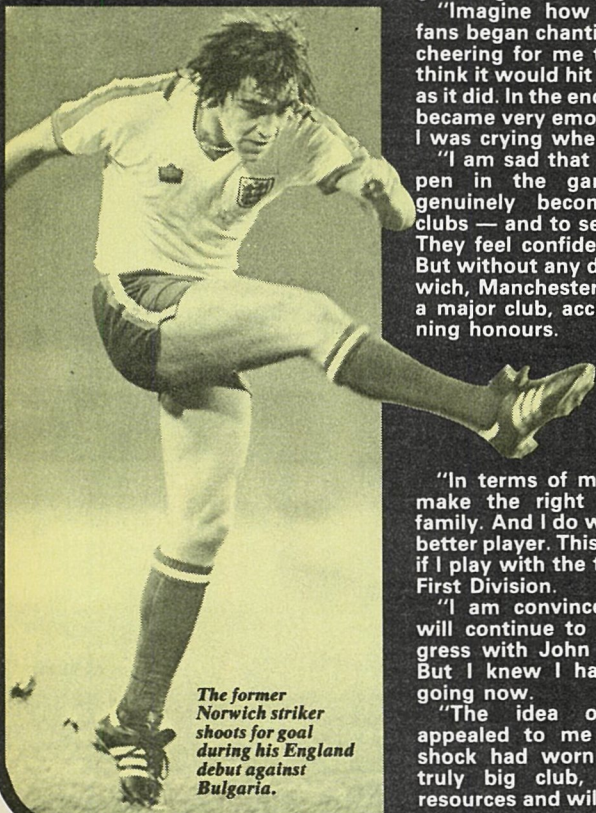
"I am an ambitious player and I wanted to join a club where I would have the opportunity of winning things and furthering my international career.

"But I was also happy with Norwich. I loved the club and the people. They were good to me when I first arrived from Bournemouth and the fans always gave me tremendous encouragement.

"I knew there was something in the air concerning City, but I did not find out about the actual transfer until shortly before our home



Kevin Reeves signs on the dotted line to become Britain's fourth £1 million player.



The former Norwich striker shoots for goal during his England debut against Bulgaria.

game against Brighton.

"Imagine how I felt when the fans began chanting my name and cheering for me to stay. I did not think it would hit me quite as hard as it did. In the end the whole thing became very emotional for me and I was crying when I left the field.

"I am sad that such things happen in the game. Players do genuinely become attached to clubs — and to sets of supporters. They feel confident and at home. But without any disrespect to Norwich, Manchester City are already a major club, accustomed to winning honours.

"In terms of my living I had to make the right decision by my family. And I do want to become a better player. This can only happen if I play with the top names in the First Division.

"I am convinced that Norwich will continue to make great progress with John Bond in charge. But I knew I had to get things going now.

"The idea of the transfer appealed to me more once the shock had worn off. They are a truly big club, and with their resources and will to succeed from

the chairman down, I can see only success ahead.

"What appeals to me most of all is the prospect of playing in front of really big crowds. The fans at Norwich were noisy and always urged us on with great enthusiasm. But the fact remains often the crowd was around the 15,000 to 17,000 mark.

"I have never lived in a big city before and I am looking forward to it. As to the price-tag, well I didn't set it, nor did I have any say in the amount. So why should it bother me? I can only do my best for Malcolm Allison on the pitch."

Reeves, who won his first England cap against Bulgaria at Wembley this season, began his career with Bournemouth for whom he scored 20 League goals in 60 games.

When John Bond went back to his former club and signed the Burley-born forward for £50,000, he got a bargain.

Reeves' 46th minute header against Brighton on March 8 was his 35th and final League goal for a club with whom he has developed into one of the most sharp and promising young forwards in the First Division.

Malcolm Allison believes he has signed a gem, claiming: "He has got qualities which remind me of Francis Lee and Mike Summerbee."

But Allison's future is uncertain. City, for all his sales and signings, are down among the relegation battlers.

Reeves brings Allison's total outlay on players to £4,490,000 — a staggering sum and one made only reasonably balanced by the £2,625,000 City have recouped by selling Brian Kidd, Gary Owen, Peter Barnes, Dave Watson, Asa Hartford, Mike Channon, Ken Clements and Bobby Shinton.

Excitement

But Allison refuses to allow any such pressure to seep through and spoil Reeves' initial excitement. He snapped: "Kevin is the first player I've actually bought since I came back to Maine Road.

"People keep saying that I have spent £4 million. But all the other signings worked out as exchanges."

Meanwhile, back at homely Carrow Road, the fans who made up special banners bearing pleas for Reeves to stay, have long since trailed them homewards, leaving chairman Sir Arthur South admitting: "We are £1 million better off financially, but we are impoverished because we do not have Kevin Reeves. I did not want to sell him, nobody did."

Reeves now has every choice — and Manchester City afford him the opportunity to take the lot.





Best of Francis

TREVOR FRANCIS

England and
Nottingham Forest



Glenn Hoddle, the PFA's "Young Player" title-holder.

TERRY

A Liverpool hat-trick. 1st Terry McDermott,



Bryan Hamilton (Swindon) invites Liverpool's David Johnson to autograph his dress shirt.



Gary Bailey "Young Player" runner-up.



Matt and Bobby united again! Sir Matt Busby received the Merit Award for services to football from Bobby Charlton.



Osvaldo Ardiles faces the mike.



Arsenal stars David O'Leary and John Hollins.



Stuart Boam (right) and Mick Martin, of Newcastle, gave the dinner a north-east influence.



Bryan Robson, Sunderland's two-goal hero against Charlton the previous day.



Ray Wilkins' mind was clearly on other things when the wine was poured.

ALL-STAR FIRST DIVISION

Shilton (Nottingham Forest)	Brady (Arsenal)
Anderson (Nottingham Forest)	Hoddle (Tottenham)
Sansom (Crystal Palace)	Dalglish (Liverpool)
Watson (Southampton)	Johnson (Liverpool)
O'Leary (Arsenal)	Birtles (Nottingham Forest)
McDermott (Liverpool)	

ALL-STAR SECOND DIVISION

Parkes (West Ham)	Brooking (West Ham)
Stephens (Luton)	Devonshire (West Ham)
Dennis (Birmingham)	Allen (Q.P.R.)
Todd (Birmingham)	Withe (Newcastle)
Bonds (West Ham)	Moss (Luton)
Gemmill (Birmingham)	

MAC The Players' Choice

2nd Kenny Dalglish, 3rd David Johnson.



Roy McFarland, Derby County.



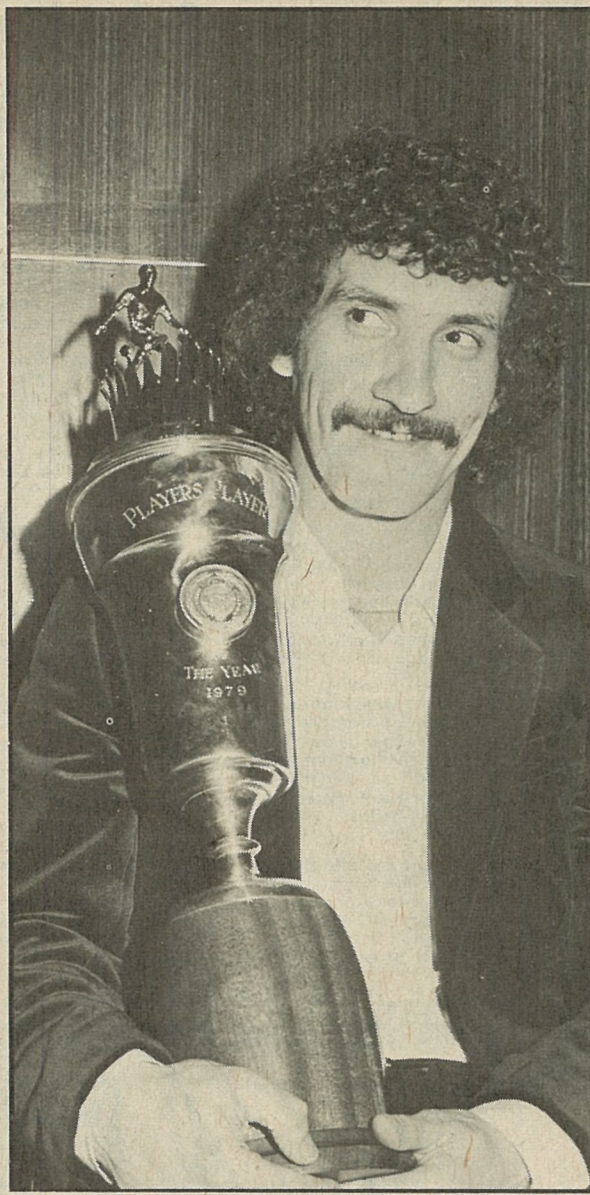
Mick Mills (Ipswich) receives his petits pois a la Francaise.



"How did you beat me?" Kenny Dalglish jokingly questions McDermott's (out of picture) right to the award.



John Richards, 24 hours after Wolves' League Cup triumph.



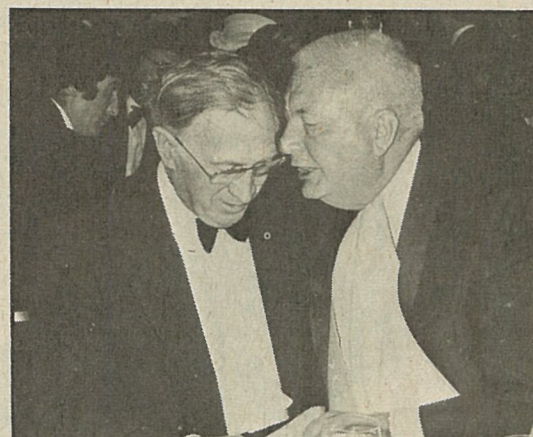
"It's a proud moment for Liverpool and me," said Terry McDermott receiving the trophy from Arts Minister Norman St John-Stevs.



Liam Brady, the 1979 winner, seemed just as happy this year.



PFA chairman Gordon Taylor of Bury drinks a toast to football.



"A word in your ear Joe?" Ernie Clay (Fulham) shares a secret with Joe Mercer.

ALL-STAR THIRD DIVISION

Jackson (Millwall)
Forrest (Rotherham)
Green (Chesterfield)
Smith (Sheffield Wednesday)
K. Moore (Grimsby)
Sabella (Sheffield United)

Waters (Grimsby)
McHale (Swindon)
Rowland (Swindon)
Mayes (Swindon)
Curran (Sheffield Wednesday)

ALL-STAR FOURTH DIVISION

Turner (Torquay, now Chesterfield)
Brown (Huddersfield)
Oakes (Newport)
Baines (Bradford)
Hinnigan (Wigan, now Sunderland)
Laidlaw (Portsmouth)

Brodie (Aldershot)
Brisley (Portsmouth)
Buckley (Walsall)
Penn (Walsall)
Robins (Huddersfield)



Record-breaker returns home

EMMANUEL SANON (left), the Haitian forward who ended Italy goalkeeper Dino Zoff's unbeaten record during the 1974 World Cup Finals, is leaving Beerschot of the Belgian First Division to return home.

Sanon, 27, has been with Beerschot for five years; has never been cautioned; and has made many new admirers with his infectious attitude towards the game.

"It is with regret that I'm going," he says. "I've had five great years in Belgium, but I must think of the future. My wife has had three children here in Antwerp and a fourth is on the way and it is time to go home. I hope to play for two more years and then use my experience in coaching."

The Rat's in trouble

SENSATION in Argentina. In the Buenos Aires super-derby between arch-rivals Boca Juniors and River Plate there's traditionally a lot of passion both on the field and on the terraces, a lot of robust play, and few goals.

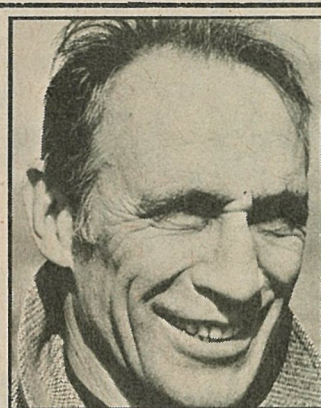
But this time round, River Plate travelled to Boca's Bombonera stadium... and won 5-2! The humiliating thrashing adds to Boca's chronic financial troubles, and new manager Antonio Rattin is already on the rack as the team are bottom-but-one of the table, having conceded ten goals in their last two games.

A week previously they'd been beaten 5-2 by Newell's Old Boys in Rosario and had had two players sent-off.

Watch this column for further news of 'The Rat' Rattin and his ailing team!

ARGENTINA side Huracan are another Buenos Aires giant to have fallen on hard times. Now comes news that their ex-president Oswaldo de Santis has been imprisoned by the Argentine authorities for a series of 'financial irregularities' committed during his regime. Property valued at around £1,000,000 has also been impounded pending a thorough investigation:

FUNNY how adults are shy about asking football personalities for their autographs. World Champion manager Cesar Luis Menotti of Argentina recently had a good laugh when a man shuffled up to him with paper and pencil at the ready and said "My boy would like an autograph..." The man's 'boy' was six weeks old, and glared at Menotti from his carry-cot!



Bearzot staying

Whatever happens in the European Championship, Italy manager Enzo Bearzot will stay on; his contract has been renewed for a further two years, taking him up to the 1982 World Cup.

WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

MALMÖ FF's English manager, Bob Houghton, has lost five first team players who have retired or signed for clubs in the Swedish Third Division. The players he will miss most are sweeper Bo Larsson and Staffan Tapper, who was the midfield general. Houghton is said to be hoping to sign replacements from English Third and Fourth Division clubs — which says a lot about the standard of play in Sweden.

REPORTS in the Colombian Press recently gave details of the Spanish Under-23 team's tour in the country and gave a list of the players that their trainer, Pepe Santamaria, had been watching, with a view to signing them for Spanish teams. The strange thing is that Spain's youngsters were playing a tournament in Portugal at the time and had never set foot in Colombia!

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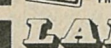
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THE leaders in the French League continue to go up and down like yo-yos. An early Lemoine goal gave Valenciennes a 1-0 victory over Nantes and Sochaux were beaten 2-0 at Nîmes. Which paved the way for St-Etienne to regain second place with a comfortable 2-0 home win over lowly Lyon. Monaco once again moved two points clear at the top with a 1-0 win in Nice.

SPORTING LISBON drew level with defending Champions FC Porto at the top of the Portuguese League when the leaders amazingly dropped a point in a 1-1 home draw with tail-enders Rio Ave — who'd previously totalled only seven points all season!

BRAZIL WANT THEIR PRESTIGE BACK

BRAZILIAN football has suddenly realised that it has lost a lot of its international prestige and is trying to recover it as soon as possible. New national team manager Telé Santana has announced that one of his main priorities is to make his players play not just to win, but to please the crowds.

"I believe in talent," says Santana, "and I will choose players who have talent coupled with a fighting spirit and the soul of a worker. I don't like those who intimidate opponents, who delay the resumption of play after a free-kick, or goalkeepers who take a long time in clearing the ball."

"The rules of football are very simple and I call on referees to enforce them. The Brazilian team that I manage will be concerned with playing the game rather than stopping opponents from doing so."

The first result of Telé's call was that the Brazilian Football Confederation will invite European

★ A sad farewell for 'Mr Feyenoord', Wim Jansen. The 33-year-old Dutch star played his last game for the Rotterdammers and incredibly they lost 0-4 at home to struggling Excelsior. Jansen, who was to join Johan Cruyff at Los Angeles Aztecs, has now switched to the Washington Diplomats after Cruyff's surprise transfer there.

★ FC Hearts of Oak are the first team in Ghana to go professional. Their 22 players have received five-year contracts with a clause stipulating a maximum transfer fee of £260,000.

SOUTH American Champions, Olimpia of Paraguay, clinched the Intercontinental Cup by beating Malmö 2-1, with goals from Solalinde and substitute Michelagnoli. Erlandsson replied for the Swedes, who were standing-in for European Champions, Nottingham Forest.

referees to officiate their club matches, with their Brazilian counterparts refereeing in Europe. The directors of the Brazilian Football Confederation believe their referees are soft where infringement of the rules is concerned and this had led to the decline of their soccer.

The drive to restore quality to Brazilian football will begin in May in an Under-21 tournament; the side will be coached by Santana and he will supervise the coaches who will later be in charge of the youngsters as they try to qualify for the Junior World Cup to be held in Australia.

Also in May, the full Brazil team will play one match in West Germany (Hanover) in connection with the Brazilian Fair in that city. In June, Brazil hope to play European opposition in Sao Paulo while later in the year they will take part in the Little World Cup in Uruguay, with West Germany, Holland, Argentina, Italy and the host nation.

PEACE PACT IN SPAIN...

IN Spain, football passions tend to run much deeper than the mere act of watching 22 players in action. Club presidents are also front-page news, and frequently get more publicity than the players themselves.

So the Spanish Press has been giving a lot of room to a rift between the presidents of Real Madrid and Barcelona — the two most powerful clubs in the land. The row started when Barça supremo Josep Lluís Núñez stated that Real owed a good many of their titles to dubious decisions by a selection of pro-Real referees.

Real president Luis De Carlos promptly stormed off, and there was a long spell of Cold War between the administrations of the two clubs.

Fortunately, there was a peaceful settlement to the dispute a few days before the potentially explosive Barcelona/Real League confrontation, when Josep Tardellas, President of the Catalunya region, stepped in and succeeded in finding a peace formula.

Ironically, the ceremonial 'smoking of the pipe of peace' was held in Barcelona on the day after the Barça-Real confrontation in the Super Cup. The club had reserved an hour with the Catalan President to celebrate the Super Cup triumph, but Cloughie's boys didn't co-operate!

Instead, the hour was used to sign the peace between Barcelona and Real...

● **Helenio Herrera**, Barcelona's new manager following the sacking of Joaquim Rife, will receive £35,000 for 14 weeks work with the Spanish club.

...FOR SPAIN READ ITALY

THE 23rd day of the Spanish League programme had a strong Italian flavour about it, with none of the 18 teams scoring more than one goal.

Six of the nine matches ended 1-0, and the other three were 1-1 draws. Of the League's top scorers, only Zaragoza striker Alonso found the net — and his goal was a second-half penalty.

Incidentally, Sevilla's 0-1 home defeat by Las Palmas was their first in ten months, and Las Palmas hadn't registered an away victory for 11 months! And another statistical oddity from the Spanish table is that tail-enders Burgos are — incredibly — undefeated at home!

AS usual, 11 of the top 25 goalscorers in Spain are foreign players. Mario Kempes heads the list, with Uruguay's Fernando Morena and leading Spaniard Quini tied for second place.

News flashes



★ Austrian international Bruno Pezzey (above), who scored twice in Austria's 4-3 win over England last year, does not like playing against Bayer Leverkusen. The Eintracht Frankfurt star was sent-off in Bayer's 2-1 home win, and earlier this season in Frankfurt against Bayer he was suspended for three months and fined £1,000 for foul play not noticed by the referee, but shown up when the highlights were screened on TV.

★ Many Dutch First Division clubs are suffering from falling attendances, but a 15,000 crowd at Groningen boosted the Division Two gates to a record 45,000 (for nine games). Groningen's crowd was better than six First Division gates that weekend.

★ Belgian First Division clubs have more foreign players on average than any other European country except Spain. But FC Leige broke new ground when they signed Philipo Mateta, an international inside forward from... Zaire.

★ Polish national team boss Ryszard Kulesza is rejuvenating his team. He took a 16-man squad to play two games in Morocco without established stars like Lato (below right), Boniek, Szymanski and Zmuda and included four players still without a full cap.



THE French football magazine ONZE have published their list of all-time greats. Pele (above left) tops the list ahead of Franz Beckenbauer, Johan Cruyff and Alfredo di Stefano in that order. Kevin Keegan is rated eighth. They reckoned the best ever French player was Raymond Kopa who starred for Rheims and Real Madrid around 1958, with St-Etienne's Michel Platini in second place.

★ The Hungarian F.A. have given Laszle Fazeka, Ujpest Dozsa's international striker, top scorer at the winter-break with 16 goals, permission to join a club in Belgium at the end of the season to gain experience for a coaching career in Hungary.

★ Threatened by relegation, MSV Duisburg have sacked coach Heinze Hoher and appointed his former assistant 39-year-old Friedhelm Wenzlaff as successor. Hoher is the seventh Bundesliga boss to be sacked this season (out of 18 clubs) and is the 96th to be axed since the Bundesliga began in 1963.

MALTA'S PLAN FAILS

WHEN West Germany beat Malta 8-0 in the European Championship recently, the star for Malta was their goalkeeper, John Bonello, who, according to the Germans' coach Jupp Derwall, pictured with Malta boss Scerri (right) "would grace any Bundesliga club... he saved his side from a real disaster."

If Malta had kept the scoreline down to 5-0, they would have earned a bonus from their F.A. who promised them extra cash if they "lost by a reasonable margin, 5-0."

The Maltese certainly tried their hardest to lose "reasonably." Coach Viktor Scerri had his team together



every week for two months, playing against local sides, trying out their tactics of massed defence and quick counter-attacks.

A week before the game in Germany, Malta drew 1-1 in Rome against the Italian Youth XI. Confi-

dence was high that Malta could do better than their last visit to West Germany four years ago, when they lost 8-0.

Sadly for them, Klaus Fischer's last minute goal ensured another eight goal thrashing for Malta.

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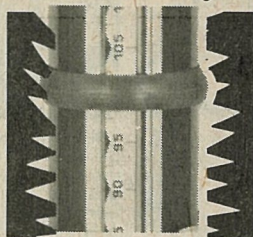
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Shilton debut

I'd like to know when Peter Shilton made his full England debut, and what the rest of the team was?

COLIN PHIPPS,
HUMBERSIDE

● Seems a long time ago now, Colin, but it was in the 3-1 defeat of East Germany at Wembley on 25th November, 1970.

Shilton's colleagues in the England team were: Emyln Hughes, Terry Cooper, Alan Mullery, David Sadler, Bobby Moore, Francis Lee, Alan Ball, Geoff Hurst, Allan Clarke and Martin Peters.



Dickinson's record

Has any famous footballer gone through a long career without ever being sent-off or booked?

ROBERT HAYWOOD,
NUNEATON

● Well, Robert, Bobby Charlton was a perfect soccer "gent" — but I seem to remember even he got booked once.

One who didn't, though, was another England star — Portsmouth's 48-cap Jimmy Dickinson (above).

"Gentleman Jim" played 764 League games for Portsmouth between 1946 and 1965 — and is still there as Chief Executive of the club — and never once needed even a wagging finger from a ref.

His superb example of sportsmanship — not to mention his skill — rightly earned him an M.B.E., for services to the game.

No fans

Is it true an F.A. Cup-tie was once played without any spectators allowed in?

ANDREW SEAMAN,
PETERBOROUGH

● Certainly is, Andrew — and it's believed to be the only first-class game in England played without fans.

It was a midweek Third Round second replay between Bradford City and Norwich in January, 1915 — when normal football carried on for the first season after World War One broke out.

Questions had been asked in Parliament about British-made shells failing to explode on the Western Front.

The Government decided that the workers making the shells were being distracted, and banned public football matches during normal midweek work-

ing-hours in the vicinity of munition factories.

So this Cup replay at neutral Lincoln — after the teams had drawn 1-1 in Bradford, and 0-0 in Norwich — was played behind locked gates.

For the record, Bradford City (then a First Division club) beat Norwich (then still non-League) 2-0.

Allan Clarke

How many goals did Allan Clarke score for his various clubs before he came to Barnsley as player-manager in 1978?

DYLAN HUGHES,
NORTH WALES

● The former England striker kicked-off his League career with Walsall (41 goals in 72 League games). Dylan, before moving to Fulham (45 goals in 86 League games) for £35,000 in March, 1966.

Next moves were on to Leicester (12 goals in 36 League games) for £150,000 in June, 1968; and then on to Leeds (110 goals in 273 League games) for £165,000 in June, 1969.

Both the latter were, at the time, new British record transfer fees.

Clarke also scored ten goals in 19 full England internationals; and seven goals in six Under-23 games.

SHORT PASSES

● Millwall's record gate is 48,672 for a Fifth Round F.A. Cup-tie v Derby on 20th February, 1937.

(BARRY DOHERTY, Deptford)

● When England beat Portugal 10-0 in Lisbon on 25th May, 1947, the scorers were Stan Mortensen (four), Tommy Lawton (four), Tom Finney, and Stan Matthews.

(LILIAN MAY, North Wales)

● Brighton (Southern League Champions) beat Aston Villa (Football League Champions) 1-0 in the 1910 F.A. Charity Shield.

(MARK PENFOLD, Crawley)

● Alan Sealey scored both goals in West Ham's 2-0 defeat of Munich 1860 in the European Cup-Winners' Cup Final at Wembley on 19th May, 1965.

(RICHARD CORDREY, Maidstone)

● Denis Law scored 171 goals in his 309 League games for Manchester United.

(PATRICK ACKERMAN, Bridport)

United Kingdom readers receive £2 for every letter published.

Overseas readers win a special SHOOT T-shirt instead of money. When writing, readers should state their size: small, medium or large.

Slimline Cassidy

TEN years with Newcastle United have given Tommy Cassidy a mature outlook on his soccer career but have not changed his habit of setting himself high standards as a midfielder man.

And when Cassidy has enjoyed a good playing spell followed by a couple of off-days, he is more likely to remember two mediocre displays rather than those occasions when he was on song.

Says Tommy: "I can have ten games which make me reasonably happy with myself, then go off the boil. So I keep on looking for the sort of consistency over a longer period that will satisfy me."

Physically, Cassidy is probably better equipped than ever before to maintain the high level of performance he wants. This season, the new, slimline Northern Ireland international has lost a stone in weight and fought a winning battle against troublesome injuries.

'Suffered'

"I suffered with groin trouble, which plagued me for a long time and damaged tissues in my instep in the match against Oldham which caused trouble. But pain-killing injections helped the foot in later games, though I usually felt it acting up again by the middle of the second-half. However, the fact that the team was playing so well made it all worth it."

During his decade at Gallowgate, Cassidy has taken criticism from the crowd, yet this term he has earned glowing tributes from the terraces for his skill and effective running with the ball as United have made their promotion push.

"If we continue for the rest of the season to win our home

has won his battle

matches, and pick up away points at the rate we were doing up to February, in spite of some setbacks, we are virtually certain to get promotion.

"To be honest, I've never found it easy to settle down in the Second Division. In the First, there is more skill, better positional play and the teams in it serve up better football. In the Second, there are fewer talented sides, more hurry and scurry in the games and many teams are playing above themselves when we visit them just because we are Newcastle United.

"Naturally, it's up to us to improve our performances on away grounds, though we played well enough at Leicester and Wrexham, where we lost narrowly on each



occasion. Working out the number of points necessary to gain promotion, I think 53 could be enough, with a probable number of about eight clubs being involved in the final run-in to the end of the season.

"The team at the top of the League, as we've been at times this term, is under pressure — everyone wants to beat you. But a side like Sunderland, who have stayed on the fringe of the leading clubs for months, can make a successful burst into a top three places at the end of April, which I believe they will do."

Cassidy, who was born in Belfast, was with Coleraine before

signing for Newcastle in October, 1970, making his debut for United just over a year later against Southampton. Then in 1974, Tommy experienced his biggest-ever disappointment when the Geordies lost decisively to Liverpool in the F.A. Cup Final.

He recalls: "Our manager then, Joe Harvey, told us after the match that he had never seen an entire Newcastle side play as badly as we had, on that particular day — the whole team was out of touch. But a week later, there was some compensation for me, when I scored the only goal of the match for Northern Ireland against Scotland at Hampden.

"Now, I've two ambitions — one to help Newcastle win the Second Division title, the other to play again for Northern Ireland. Billy Bingham selected me for my first cap in his earlier spell as manager of the Irish team, and I hope that he thinks I'm worth a recall."

25 RECORDS TO BE WON

in our FREE ENTRY COMPETITION

Disco greats on this Warwick Album from the film Yesterday's Hero recently released by Columbia/EMI Warner Distributors Ltd. All you have to do is fill in the form and answer these three simple questions.

1. Was the actor who starred in the film Ian McShane, Roger Moore or Oliver Reed?
2. A former soccer star was the film's technical adviser. Was it Bobby Moore, Frank McLintock or Jimmy Greaves?
3. An ex-pop star acted the role of the team's manager in the film. Can you name him?



★ Prizes will be awarded for the first 25 correct entries checked after the closing date. The competition is open to readers in the U.K. and Eire, except employees and their families of IPC Magazines Ltd., and the printers of SHOOT. Closing date is Friday, April 18th, 1980. Winners will be notified and the result published later in SHOOT. The Editor's decision is final.

SHOOT YESTERDAY'S HERO COMPETITION,
55 Ewer Street, London SE9 6YP.
ANSWERS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Name _____

Address _____

Age _____

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Saturday, January 26

F.A. Cup

(Fourth Round)

CHESTER (2) 2 (Storton, Rush)
MILLWALL (0) 0 5,966
 Chester: Millington; Jeffries, Walker, Storton, Cottam, Oakes, Sutcliffe, Jones, Rush, Phillips, Henderson (Howat).
 Millwall: Jackson; Donaldson, Roberts, Mehmet, Tagg, Blyth, Towner, Seaman, McKenna (Kinsella), Lyons, Coleman.

EVERTON (1) 3 (McBride, Latchford, Kidd)
WIGAN (0) 0 51,853
 Everton: Hodge; Gidman, Bailey, Wright, Lyons, Stanley, Hartford, Eastoe, Latchford, Kidd, McBride.
 Wigan: Brown; Fretwell, Hinnigan (Quinn), Gore, Methven, Davids, Corrigan, Wright, Houghton, Brownbill, Urquhart.

NOTTM FOREST (0) 0
LIVERPOOL (1) 2 (Dalglish, McDermott pen.) 33,277
 Nottm Forest: Shilton; Anderson, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd (Burns), Needham, O'Neill, Bowyer, Birtles, Francis, Robertson.
 Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Johnson, McDermott, Souness.

ORIENT (1) 2 (Taylor (pen.), Chiedoze)
WEST HAM (2) 3 (Gray o.g., Stewart 2 (1 pen.)) 21,521
 Orient: Rafter; Fisher, Roffey, Taylor, Gray, Moores, Chiedoze, Hughton, Jennings, Margerrison, Coates.
 West Ham: Parkes; Brush, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Devonshire, Allen, Pearson, Pike, Stewart, Neighbour.

SWANSEA (2) 4 (Giles 2, Waddle, James)
READING (0) 1 (Kearney) 18,752
 Swansea: Letheran; Marustik, Rushbury, Charles, Phillips, Giles, Craig, James, Waddle, Toshack, Callaghan.
 Reading: Death; Joslyn, White (Kearns), Bowman, Hetzke, Moreline, Earles, Kearney, Heale, Sanchez, Lewis.

SWINDON (0) 0
TOTTENHAM (0) 0 26,000
 Swindon: Allan; Lewis, Stroud, McHale, Tucker, Carter, Miller, Kamara, Rowland, Mayes, Williams.
 Tottenham: Daines; Hughton, Miller, Yorath, Naylor, Perryman, Ardiles, Jones, Armstrong, Hoddle, Villa (Pratt).

WATFORD (0) 4 (Poskett, Patching 2, Bolton)
HARLOW (1) 3 (Prosser, Mackenzie 2) 24,586
 Watford: Steele; Henderson, Harrison, Patching, Sims, Bolton, Blissett, Poskett, Jenkins, Train, Rostron.
 Harlow: Kitson; Wickendon, Flack, Gough, Clarke, Adnams, Mann, Mackenzie, Prosser, Twigg, Griffiths.



WOLVES (0) 1 (Gray)
NORWICH (1) 1 (Bond) 25,516
 Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Berry, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Thomas.
 Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Downs, Ryan, Brown, Powell, Mendham, Reeves, Fashanu (Shepherd), Paddon, Peters.

First Division

C. PALACE (1) 2 (Hilaire, Kember)
W.B.A. (0) 2 (Robertson, Regis) 23,258
 C. Palace: Burrage; Hinshelwood, Sansom, Kember, Cannon, Gilbert, Murphy, Francis (Swindlehurst), Walsh, Flanagan, Hilaire.
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham (Brown A), Moses, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Deehan, Regis, Owen, Barnes.

Third Division

BARNLEY (2) 2 (Glavin, Aylott)
OXFORD (0) 0 9,058
 Barnley: Pierce; Joyce, Chambers, Glavin, Evans, Cooper, Hunter, Banks, Graham, Lester (Millar), Aylott.
 Oxford: Brown; Doyle, McIntosh, Briggs, Cooke, Jeffrey, Watson, Taylor, Foley, Berry, Duncan.

BLACKPOOL (0) 0
GRIMSBY (0) 3 (Drinkell 2, Cumming) 4,932
 Blackpool: Hesford; Gardner, Pashley, Thompson, Malone, Noble, Morris, Kellow (Watson), Jones, Doyle, Harrison.
 Grimsby: Batch; Moore (D), Moore (K), Waters, Wigginton, Stone, Brolly, Kilmore, Drinkell, Mitchell, Cumming.

EXETER (0) 1 (Hatch)
CHESTERFIELD (1) 2 (Moss, Crawford) 4,325
 Exeter: Main; Rogers (M), Hatch, Hore, Giles, Roberts (P), Neville, Rogers (P), Bowker, Delve, Pullar.
 Chesterfield: Kendall; Tartt, O'Neill, Ridley, Green, Kowalski, Birch, Moss, Walker, Salmons, Crawford.

MANSFIELD (0) 1 (Bird)
WIMBLEDON (1) 1 (Cunningham) 3,895
 Mansfield: Arnold; Thompson (Hamilton), Wood, Curtis, Bird, McClelland, Pollard, Taylor, Austin, Mann, Allen.
 Wimbledon: Goddard; Briley, Jones, Galliers, Smith, Cunningham, Ketteridge, Parsons, Leslie, Denny, Lewington.

PLYMOUTH (0) 2 (Bason, Cook)
GILLINGHAM (1) 2 (Hughes, Price) 6,413
 Plymouth: Crudginton; James, Harrison, Trusson, Foster, Philipson-Masters, Hodges, Cooper, Sims, Bason, Cook.
 Gillingham: Hillyard; Ford (Walker), Barker, Overton, Weatherly, Crabbe, Nicholl, Hughes, Price, Bruce, Richardson.

Harlow celebrate their first goal in the Cup-tie against Watford. The non-Leaguers eventually lost 4-3 at Vicarage Road.

Fourth Division

ALDRSHOT (0) 2 (Jopling, French)
STOCKPORT (0) 0 3,002
 Aldershot: Johnson; Edwards, Wooler, Dixon, Bennett, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie, French, Needham, McGregor.
 Stockport: Lawson; Thorpe, Sherlock, Bradd, Czuczman, Chapman, Williams, Henson, Sword, Prudham, Coyle.

BRADFORD C (2) 3 (Black, McNiven 2)
DONCASTER (1) 1 (Nimmo) 5,544
 Bradford C: Smith; Podd, Watson, Black, Baines, Cooper, Robertson, Dolan, Campbell, McNiven, Hutchins.
 Doncaster: Peacock; Russell, Snodin, Lister, Dowd, Bradley, Nimmo (Pugh), Little, Warboys, Riley, Lally.

DARLINGTON (0) 1 (Stalker)
HEREFORD (1) 1 (Binney) 1,447
 Darlington: Owers, Nattress, Cochran, Ball, Craig, Smith, McLean, Hamilton, Stalker, Taylor, Walsh.
 Hereford: Hughes; Price, Burrows, Marshall, Layton, Thomas, McGrellis, Spiring, Binney, Jones, White.

HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Ayre pen.)
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 (Kindon) 5,919
 Hartlepool: Burleigh; Sweeney, Carr, Lawrence, Brooks, Ayre, McNamee, Gorry, Houchen, Harding, Hampton.
 Huddersfield: Rankin; Brown, Robinson, Stanton, Sutton, Hanvey, Laverick, Hart, Kindon, Robins, Cowling.

LINCOLN (0) 2 (Cunningham, Hobson)
TORQUAY (0) 0 3,414
 Lincoln: McManus; Ward, Neale, Shipley, Peake, Carr, Hobson, Cunningham, Harford, Keeley, Bell.
 Torquay: Turner; Wilson, Ritchie, Pethard, Bourne, Sermanni (Smith), Coffill, Twitchin, Cooper, Lawrence, Murphy.

NEWPORT (0) 0
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0 4,833
 Newport: Plumley; Walden, Relish, Bruton (D), Davies, Bailey, Vaughan, Lowndes, Bruton (M) (Tynan), Aldridge, Moore.
 Bournemouth: Smeulders; Cunningham, Ferns, Impey, Townsend, Bryant, Holder, MacDougall, Butler, Evanson, Miller.

PETERBOROUGH (1) 3 (Kellock, Cliss, Syrett)
PORT VALE (0) 0 3,287
 Peterborough: Waugh; Carmichael, Phillips, Guy, Slough, Foster, Quow (Robson), Kellock, Cliss, Syrett, Cassells.
 Port Vale: Dance; Keenan, Griffiths, Bentley, Delgado, Sproson, Beech, Farrell, Owen, Chamberlain (N), Healy (Bromage).

SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Partridge)
PORTSMOUTH (0) 0 2,609
 Scunthorpe: Gordon; Davy, Peacock, Kavanagh, Dall, Pugh, Pilling, Green (Cowling), Partridge, Stewart.
 Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Brisley, Aizlewood, Roberts, Garwood, Laidlaw, Perrin (Gregory), Bryant, Rogers.

WALSALL (2) 5 (Penn, Paul, Caswell, Buckley, Rees)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Bowen) 5,646
 Walsall: Green; Macken (Rees), Mower, Sbragia, Serella, Paul, Penn, Williams, McDonough, Buckley, Caswell.
 Northampton: Poole; Farrington, Sandercock, Byatt, Waldock, Ward, Denyer, Leonard, Farmer (Sargent), Bowen, McCaffrey.

YORK (2) 2 (McDonald pen., Loggie)
CREWE (1) 2 (Conroy, Hunter) 2,460
 York: Crawford, Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Randall, Lorimer, Eccles (Wellings), McDonald, Loggie.
 Crewe: Grobbelaar; Lewis, Wilkinson, Hunter, Scott, Proffett, McMahon, Guy, Conroy, Palios, Nelson.

Scottish Cup

(Third Round)

ALLOA (1) 1 (Holt)
HEARTS (0) 0 4,500
 (Abandoned after 50 minutes)

ARBROATH (1) 1 (Stark)
ABERDEEN (1) 1 (Archibald) 5,764
 Arbroath: Lester; McKenzie, Scrimgeour (Durno), Cargill, Wellis, Kydd, Stark (Yule), Myles, Barbour, Gavine, Wilson.
 Aberdeen: Clark; Kennedy, Considine (Bell), McLeish, Rougvie, Miller, Strachan, Archibald, Hamilton, McMaster, Scanlon (Davidson).

BERWICK (2) 3 (Tait, Wallace 2)
PETERHEAD (1) 1 (McDowell o.g.) 1,237
 Berwick: Davidson (K), Moyes, McLeod, Wheatley (Jones), McDowell, Smith (D), Henderson, Davidson (P), Wallace, Romaines, Tait.
 Peterhead: McHattie; Rennie, Morgan, Taylor (J), Siewwright, Krukowski, Grant (Porter), Hunter, Brown, Lawson (West), Taylor (G).

CELTIC (2) 2 (Lennox, Doyle)
RAITH (0) 1 (Ballantyne) 18,000
 Celtic: Latchford; Sneddon, McGrain, Aitken, McDonald, McAdam, Provan, Lennox, Edvaldsson (Conroy), MacLeod, Doyle.
 Raith: McDermott; Houston, Candlish, Ford, Forsyth, Thomson (D), McFarlane, Urquhart, Ballantyne, Thompson (R), Miller (Duncan).

CLYDE (0) 2 (Hood, Hyslop)
RANGERS (0) 2 (Jackson, Jardine pen) 27,000
 Clyde: McWilliams; Fillipi, Thorburn, Clougherty, Kinnear, Ahern, Hyslop, O'Neill, Hood, McCabe (Grant), Keen.
 Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Forsyth, Jackson, Stevens (Smith), McLean (Cooper), Miller, Johnstone, MacDonald (A), MacDonald (J).

CLYDEBANK (1) 1 (Miller)
STIRLING (0) 1 (Kennedy, A) 1,483
 Clydebank: Gallacher; Gervaise, Colgan, Fallon, McCormick, McLaughlin, McIntyre, Houston, Miller, Given, Ronald.
 Stirling: Arthur; Nicol, Skilling, Irvine (Steadman), Kennedy (J), Moffat, McPhee, Beaton, Kennedy (A) (Heggie), Gray, Armstrong.

DUMBARTON (1) 1 (Gallagher, B.)
AYR (1) 2 (Conner pen., Armour) 2,480
 Dumbarton: Williams; Sinclair, McLeod, McNeill, Gallagher (J), Coyle (J), Brown, Gallagher (B), Sharp, Blair, Coyle (T).
 Ayr: Rennie; McColl, Nicholl, McSherry, McAlister, Fleeting, Frye, Armour, Morris, Conner, Christie (Love).

HAMILTON (0) 2 (Graham, Howie)
KEITH (1) 3 (O'Hara, Bremner, Keir) 2,307
 Hamilton: Ferguson; Frew, Brown, Alexander, McDougall, Gormley, Fairlie, Graham, Morris, Wright, McGrogan (Howie).
 Keith: Gray; McKay, Martin, Dalgarno, Wilson, Fettes, Keir, Duncan, Bremner, O'Hara, Curran.

MEADOWBANK (0) 0
HIBS (1) 1 (Callachan) at Tynecastle 8,415
 Meadowbank: Nielson; Dunn, Fraser, Boyd, Wight (McGauran), Conroy (Davidson), Small, Leetion, Kelly, Brown, Jobson.
 Hibs: McArthur; Brazil, Lambie, Paterson, Stewart, McNamara, Callachan, MacLeod, Higgins, Campbell, Best.

MORTON (1) 1 (Tolmie)
COWDENBEATH (0) 0 4,517
 Morton: Baines; Hayes, Holmes, Anderson (Craig), Orr, Miller, Russell, Brown, Thomson, Tolmie (Scott), Ritchie.
 Cowdenbeath: Allan; Rolland, Markey, Hunter, Russell, Dyce, Harley (Reilly), Marshall, Liddle, Purdie, Steel (Caithness).

Q o S (1) 2 (Mitchell, McCann)
MOTHERWELL (0) 0 5,210
 Q o S: Ball; Dickson, Cloy, Clark, Shields, McCann, Robertson, Goodall, Alexander, Coughlin (McChesney), Mitchell (Bryce).

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Motherwell: Sproat; Wark, McLelland, McLeod, Carson (O'Rourke), Soutar, McLaughlin, Clinging, Clelland (Donnelly), Irvine, Kane.

ST. MIRREN (0) 3 (Weir, Docherty 2)
BRECHIN (0) 1 (Paterson) 6,555
St. Mirren: Thomson; Young, Beckett, Docherty, Fulton, Copland, Bone, Stark, Somner, McDougall, Weir.
Brechin: Ritchie; Watt, Darcy, Reid, Glover, Elvin, Campbell (I), Campbell (R) (Kyles), Paterson, Henderson, Donald.

Second Division

FALKIRK (0) 0
STRANRAER (0) 0 1,500
FORFAR (1) 1 (Farningham)
EAST STIRLING (0) 1 (Lamont) 1,500
QUEEN'S PARK (1) 3 (Gillespie 3, 1 pen)
EAST FIFE (0) 1 (Mitchell) 653
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 2 (Dunn 2)
MONTROSE (0) 1 (Murray) 350

Irish League

ARDS (1) 3 (Foster, Martin, Cullen (pen))
GLENDAVON (0) 0
Ards: Craig; Walker, Cromie, Cullen, McCoy, Gibson, Hewitt, Martin, Foster, Alley, Maxwell.
Glenavon: Lennox; Davey, Quinn, Millen, Stitt, Donnelly, McCann (McGeown), McDonald, Armstrong, Tully, O'Kane.

CLIFTONVILLE (0) 0
LINFIELD (1) 1 (Jameson)
Cliftonville: Johnston; Mills, Largey, Flanagan, Quinn, McCurry, McAteer, McCusker, Adair, Hewitt, Holden.
Linfield: Dunlop; Garrett, Hayes, Jameson, Parkes, McKeown, Nixon, McKee, Feeney, Dorman, Anderson.

DISTILLERY (0) 0
CRUSADERS (3) 4 (Rice, Byrne 2, McPolin)
Distillery: Smith; Andrews, McGreevy, Keatley, McIlhinney, McAuley, Kerr, Cowden, Richardson (McAlinden), McMinn, Faloan.
Crusaders: McDonald; Thompson, Gorman, Mulhall, Gillespie, McPolin, Whiteside, Curry, Byrne (McKiernan), King, Ride.

GLENTORAN (0) 2 (Gracey, Blackledge)
COLERAINE (3) 4 (Platt, Dickson 3)
Glentoran: Anderson; Dougan, Carson, Walsh, Cranston, Gracey, Irvine (McFall), McCreery, Blackledge, Houston, Jamison.
Coleraine: Magee; McDowell, McNutt, Beckett, Hutton, McConachie, Mahon, Healey, Platt, Dickson, Moffatt.

LARNE (0) 1 (Feeney o.g.)
BANGOR (2) 3 (McCoubrey 2 (2 pens), Dickinson)
Larne: Coburn; Galway, Clelland, McManus, Carland, Donaghy, Hanvey (Hardy), Graham, Doran, McAuley, Higgins.
Bangor: Nicholson; Cummings, Feeney, Radcliffe, Harrison, Bowden, Lennox, McKim, Dickinson, McCoubrey, Duddy.

PORTADOWN (2) 2 (Fox o.g., Gordon)
BALLYMENA UNITED (1) 5 (McQuiston 2, P. Mullan, Malone, G. Mullan)
Portadown: McCollum; Smyth, Edgar, Wilson, Kilburn, Cleary, Gordon, Gardiner, Alexander, Quinn, Donegan (Buchanan).
Ballymena Utd: White; Beattie, Fox, McCullough, Jackson, McCall, Mullan (P), Slona, McQuiston, Malone, Mullan (G).

Sunday, January 27

League of Ireland

ATHLONE TOWN (2) 2 (Smith (pen), Davis)
BOHEMIANS (1) 1 (McCormack (pen))
Athlone Town: Smyth; Feniuk, Fullum McCue, Smith, O'Connor (P), Clarke, Wyse, Devlin, O'Connor (T) (Salmon), Davis.

Bohemians: Byrne (W); Gregg, Brady, Nolan, Keogh, O'Riordan, Kelly, McCormack, Byrne (M), Lawless, Eviston.

DUNDALK (6) 9 (Lawlor, Braddish 3, Duff, Flanagan 3 (3 pens), Carlyle)
SHELBOURNE (0) 0
Dundalk: Blackmore; McConville, Lawlor, Keely, Dunning, Flanagan, Byrne, Devine (Daly), Duff (Crawley), Braddish, Carlyle.
Shelbourne: Delahunt; Boyle, Carney (Martin), McMahon, Cleary, Moody, Nugent, Donnelly, O'Brien, Byrne, Dillon.

HOME FARM (0) 2 (Neville, Cervi)
DROGHEDA UNITED (0) 2 (Carthy 2)
Home Farm: Finnerty; Maher, Brady, Breslin, King, Neville, Cervi, Williams, McCluskey, Thomas, Archbold.
Drogheda Utd: Forrestal; Haughey, Campbell, Ferguson, Flanagan, Feeney, Martin, Byrne, Doran, Tuite, Carthy.

LIMERICK UNITED (3) 5 (Morris 2, Walsh, Delamere, Hand)
THURLES TOWN (0) 0
Limerick Utd: Fitzpatrick; Ryan Fitzgerald (McDonnell), O'Mahony, Hand, Meaney, Nolan, Morris, Delamere, Walsh, Duggan (Matthews).
Thurles Town: Dalton; Doran, McQuaid, Lyons, Tierney, Heffernan, Ingoldsby, Lawson, Steedman, Sheehy, Jenkins (O'Brien).

ST PATRICK'S ATH (1) 1 (Carthy)
FINN HARPS (2) 4 (Logan, McGroarty, Monagle, McGrory)
St Pat's Ath: Grace; Higgins, Daly, Hines, Roche, Doyle, Wright, Carthy (O'Neill), Jameson, Barron (Malone), Kirwan.
Finn Harps: McDermott; Ferry, Monagle, McDowell, Sheridan, Duffy (McElwaine), Logan, McLoughlin (McCool), McGrory, Minnock, McGroarty.

SHAMROCK ROVERS (2) 2 (Maher, Gannon)
GALWAY ROVERS (0) 0
Shamrock Rovers: O'Neill; Kenny, Synnott, O'Leary, Burke, Treacey, Gannon, Maher, Byrne, Campbell, Buckley.
Galway Rovers: Lally; Daly, Murphy, Sheehan, McDavid, Herrick, Cooke, Gaynor (Quinlivan), Collins, Cassidy, Fay (Mannion).

SLIGO ROVERS (0) 1 (Skeffington)
WATERFORD (0) 0
Sligo Rovers: Patterson; Fielding, O'Doherty (D), Fagan, Rutherford, Stenson, McLoughlin (Kavanagh), Patton, Bradley, O'Doherty (G), Skeffington.
Waterford: Farrell; O'Mahoney, Gardiner, Finucane, Dunphy, Jackson (Meagan), Kirk, Madigan, Wallace, McCarthy, Keane (Carey).

UCD (1) 1 (Moran (pen))
CORK UNITED (1) 2 (R. Lane 2)
UCD: McCabe; McKeown, McDonnell, Deeney, Fox, McGovern, Moran, Dignam, Cassidy, Drury (Courtney), Murphy.
Cork Utd: Lennox; O'Donovan, Sheehan, Keane, Brohan, Neiland, Nodwell, Punch, Lane (J), McCarthy, Lane (R).

Tuesday, January 29

F.A. Cup

(Fourth Round replay)

WREXHAM (2) 3 (McNeil 2, Jones)
CARLISLE (1) 1 (Bonnyman) 14,643
Wrexham: Davies; Darracott, Kenworthy, Davis, Jones, Fox, Vinter, Sutton, Edwards, McNeil (Hill), Carrodus.
Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, Winstanley, MacDonald, Ludlam (Bannon), Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Beardsley, Hamilton, Stanforth.

Third Division

BURY (0) 0
COLCHESTER (1) 1 (Rowles) 3,551
Bury: Forrest, Constantine, Kennedy, McIlwraith, Whitehead, Waddington, Mullen, Wilson, Johnson, Hilton, Halford (Madden).

Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Leslie, Wignall, Dowman, Hodge, Rowles, Foley, Lee, Allinson.

Wednesday, Jan 30

European Super Cup

(first-leg)

NOTTM FOREST (1) 1 (George)
BARCELONA (0) 0 23,807
Nottm Forest: Shilton; Anderson, Gray, O'Neill, Lloyd, Burns, Francis, Bowles, Birtles, George, Robertson.
Barcelona: Artola; Zuviria, Migueli, Olmo, Serrat, Costas, Simonsen (Estella), Landaburu, Roberto (Carrasco), Asensi, Rubio.

F.A. Cup

(Fourth Round replays)

ASTON VILLA (2) 4 (Donovan 2, Evans, Little)
CAMBRIDGE (1) 1 (Spriggs) 36,835
Aston Villa: Rimmer; Swain, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Bremner, Little, Donovan, Cowans, Shaw.
Cambridge: Webster; Turner, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, O'Neill, Streete, Spriggs, Finney, Murray, Reilly.

NORWICH (1) 2 (Bond, Mendham)
WOLVES (3) 3 (Eves, Richards, Berry) 23,101
Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Downs, Ryan, Brown, Powell, Mendham, Reeves, Fashanu, Paddon, Peters.
Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Berry, Hibbitt, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.



Wolves' John Richards.

TOTTENHAM (0) 2 (Armstrong 2)
SWINDON (0) 1 (McHale) 46,707
Tottenham: Daines; Hughton, Miller, Pratt, McAllister, Perryman, Ardiles, Jones (Taylor), Armstrong, Hoddle, Villa.
Swindon: Allan; Lewis, Stroud, McHale, Tucker, Carter, Miller (Hamilton), Kamara, Rowland, Mayes, Williams.

Fourth Division

LINCOLN (1) 1 (Cooper o.g.)
BRADFORD C (0) 0 3,860
Lincoln: McManus; Thompson, Neale, Shipley, Peake, Carr, Hobson, Keeley, Harford, Cunningham, Bell.
Bradford C: Smith; Podd, Watson, Robertson, Baines, Cooper, Black, Dolan (Stanforth), Campbell, McNiven, Hutchins.

Scottish Cup

(Third Round)

AIRDRIE (2) 3 (McGuire pen., McKeown, Erwin)
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (Goldthorpe) 2,500
Airdrie: McGarr; Erwin, Rodger, Walker, March, Anderson, McKeown, Clark, McCulloch, Gordon, McGuire.
St Johnstone: Tulloch; Mackay, Lowe (Rutherford), McNicol, Scullion, Weir, McCoist, Brogan, Goldthorpe, Morton (Redford), McNeil.

ALLOA (0) 0
HEARTS (1) 1 (Fraser) 3,463
Alloa: McCann; Abel, Hamilton, Holt, Morrison, Smith, Robertson, McLean, Cochrane (Yates), Shields.
Hearts: Brough; Kidd, Denny, Boyd, Liddell, Jeffries, Masterton, Fraser, Gilbert, Robinson, Robertson.

DUNDEE UTD (1) 5 (Pettigrew 4, 1 pen., Sturrock)
DUNDEE (0) 1 (Pirie) 18,604
Dundee Utd: McAlpine; Stark, Kopel, Fleming, Hegarty, Phillip, Bannon (Kirkwood), Sturrock, Pettigrew (Dodd), Holt, Payne.
Dundee: Donaldson; Miller, Schaefer, McLaren, Glennie, Shirra, Murphy (Barr), Mackie, Pirie, Sinclair, Redford.

DUNFERMLINE (2) 2 (McNaughton, Leonard)
BUCKIE THISTLE (0) 0 3,132
Dunfermline: Whyte; Thomson, Mercer, Robertson (R), Salton, Robertson (A), McNaughton, Borthwick (Bowie), Leonard, Hebart, O'Brien.
Buckie Thistle: Wood; Cowie, Brett, Adams, Forbes, Soutar (Oxley), MacDonald (Scott), Robertson, Duncan, Christie, Nicol.

KILMARNOCK (0) 0
PARTICK (0) 1 (McAdam) 7,677
Kilmarnock: McCulloch; Welsh, McLean, Clark, Clarke, McDicken, Gibson, Maxwell, Bourke, Cramond, Houston (Cairney).
Partick: Rough; McKinnon, Whittaker, Campbell, McAdam, Anderson, Doyle, Melrose, O'Hara, Jardine, Park.

Scottish Cup

(Third Round replays)

ABERDEEN (1) 5 (Hamilton, Scanlon 3 (1 pen), Archibald)
ARBROATH (0) 0 8,000
Aberdeen: Clark; Kennedy, McMaster, McLeish, Rougvie, Miller, Strachan (Bell), Archibald (Hewitt), Hamilton, Jarvie, Scanlon.
Arbroath: Lister; McKenzie, Scrimgeour, Cargill, Wells, Kydd, Stark, Myles, Gavine (Durno), Barbour (Yule), Wilson.

RANGERS (0) 2 (MacDonald J. 2)
CLYDE (0) 0 10,000
Rangers: MClroy; Jardine, Dawson, Forsyth (T), Jackson, Stevens, Cooper, Russell, Johnstone, Watson, MacDonald (J).
Clyde: McWilliams; Fillipi, Thorburn, Clougherty, Kinnear, Ahern, Hyslop, O'Neill, Hood, McCabe (Grant), Kean.

STIRLING (0) 1 (McPhee)
CLYDEBANK (0) 1 (Sweeney) a.e.t. 1,600
Stirling: Arthur; Nicol, Skimming, Irvine (Heggie), Kennedy (J), Moffat, McPhee, Beaton (Steedman), Kennedy (A), Gray, Armstrong.
Clydebank: Gallagher; Greaves, Colgan, Fallon, McCormack, McLaughlin, McIntyre, Houston, Miller, Given, Ronald (Sweeney).



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The challenge that faces McAlpine

LAST season Dundee United goalkeeper Hamish McAlpine earned himself the nickname 'Scrooge' because he never gave anything away.

He conceded fewer goals than any other 'keeper in the Premier Division and after 22 League games this season he was well on his way to repeating that feat — with one subtle difference.

Last season Dundee United had genuine hopes of toppling both Celtic and Rangers and winning the Championship. This time they were hovering near the relegation trapdoor after 22 games.

McAlpine had conceded only 23 goals in 22 games, a record bettered only by Celtic's consistent Peter Latchford.

The Tannadice 'keeper wouldn't be blamed for thinking the situation is a bit unrealistic and he echoes the thoughts of all his team-mates when he says: "There is far too much talent in this team to be relegated. However, there can be no complacency. Relegation can happen to anyone, after all."

Complained

United's astute boss Jim McLean, acclaimed as one of the most knowledgeable coaches in Scottish soccer, has long complained about the Top Ten, saying it is far too tight and there is no breathing space. United's predicament surely underlines that fact.

Only goal difference kept United in the Premier Division in its first season and they will hope that things aren't quite so close at the end of the current programme.

It's difficult to put your finger on what is wrong at United for they have a wonderful manager, some great players, good method and a fine balance, but the results aren't always what they should be.

McAlpine certainly gives the defence stability although it looked as though his days at Tannadice were numbered at the start of the season when McLean signed former Chelsea favourite Peter Bonetti.

The ex-England international moved straight into the number one spot and McAlpine, who had been sent home from a tour of the Far East after a verbal punch-up with his boss, was relegated to the reserves.

However, an outstanding display in the U.E.F.A. Cup victory over Anderlecht in Belgium eventually won McAlpine an extended run in the first team and there has been no looking back since.

There can be no resting on laurels, though, for United boss McLean recently bought Under-21 international 'keeper Jim Gardiner from Aberdeen and McAlpine should heed the words of Pittodrie veteran Bobby Clark.

"Jim Gardiner is a brilliant prospect," says Clark. "I trained with the lad so I know what I am talking about. It was a pity, really, that he had to leave Pittodrie, but we have another superb youngster in Jim Leighton."

"It was always on the cards that one would have to go and I wish Jim all the best in his new career with United."

McAlpine, though, is used to challenges for this first team jersey. Bonetti is still in there looking for recognition and has even done an extended spell of full-time training with the other Tannadice players.

It's a challenge McAlpine will undoubtedly relish.

McAlpine saves against Aberdeen in the League Cup.



SHERLOCK Holmes was known to unravel a mystery or two in his day, but it is doubtful if even he could come up with an answer to a puzzle that is currently baffling Morton supporters.

Left-back Jimmy Holmes — known as 'Sherlock' to some of the fans after the great detective — was once freed by Partick Thistle, but everyone who watches him in action agrees that it is a mystery that such an accomplished defender could ever be thrown on the soccer scrapheap.

"It's true," says Holmes. "I had a brief spell with Partick Thistle, but never really got a chance to prove myself. It didn't surprise me when I was told I was surplus to their requirements."

"In fact, the day I got that free transfer was when my career took off. It was a reversal of the usual trends because I was allowed to go to Morton and since then I haven't looked back."

"The boss, Benny Rooney, was once a Partick Thistle player, of course, so he knew what I could or couldn't do. He gave me a settled



'SHERLOCK' IS STUMPED!

run in the side and I'm glad to say things have worked fairly well for yours truly since then."

Holmes even rubbed salt into Thistle's wounds this season when he played against them at Firhill and scored in his side's runaway 4-1 success.

"I would like to score a lot more goals than I do," says Holmes, a likeable, happy personality off the field. "I know my full-back partner Davie Hayes, the club captain, feels the same way."

Alan Rough might be a much-maligned goalkeeper in the South, but Holmes points out: "The big man rarely makes mistakes playing for Thistle and anything you get against him you have got to work hard for. To beat him from long range is no easy feat... that is another reason I was so delighted to score that one against Thistle."

Another goalkeeper being tipped for international honours is Kilmarnock's Alan McCulloch, who was recently included in Jock Stein's Under-21 squad as an over-age player.

Just to prove that his goal against Rough was no fluke, Holmes also scored a magnificent effort against McCulloch in the League at Cappielow this season.

"I went down the left wing in support of an attacking move," says Holmes. "When the ball went wide, I went inside. The move broke down, but the ball came to me and I just let fly from an angle about 25 yards out."

"The ball flew past Alan McCulloch into the net. Yes, I could do with scoring several more like that. Those are the icing on the cake for a defender."

That goal against Kilmarnock

could well win Holmes a Goal of the Season award for it was watched by thousands on television in Scotland as well as the fans who braved the winter's snow that freezing afternoon.

It was a spectacular, flamboyant effort that swerved away from the desperately diving McCulloch and curled in at the far post. But Holmes has one regret.

"We finished losing that game 2-1," he says. "At the time it was crucial for us to pick up two points to keep the pressure on Celtic at the top of the Premier Division."

"Kilmarnock played well and took their goals in deadly fashion and we must learn our lesson never to relax. There is no future in taking points off Celtic, Rangers and Aberdeen and then throwing them away against other teams."

The only blot on Holmes's copybook this season came against Celtic at Parkhead when he was ordered off for something he apparently said to a linesman.

However, just to show there are no hard feelings down Parkhead way, Celtic manager Billy McNeill readily admits that he rates Holmes the best left-back in the Premier Division... just behind his own skipper Danny McGrain, of course.

That's praise that Jimmy 'Sherlock' Holmes couldn't have expected to hear the day Partick Thistle told him they didn't think he was good enough to make the grade in professional football.

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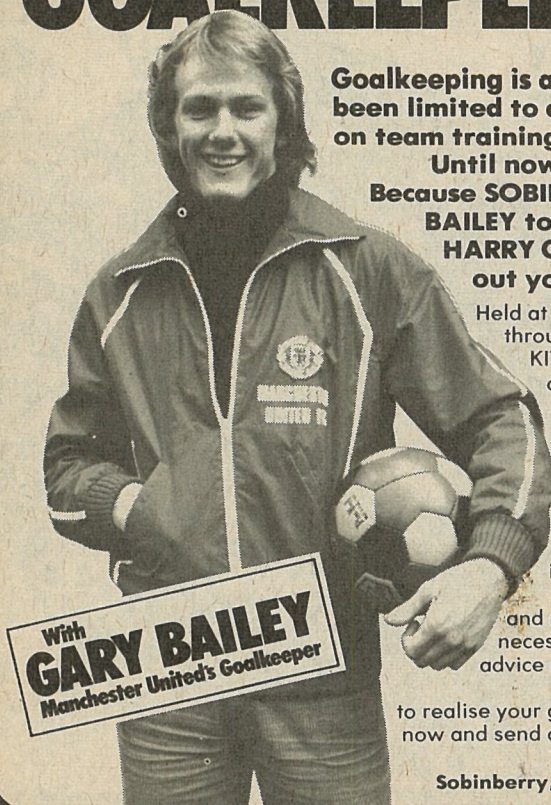
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'Arsenal could be the team of the Eighties'

AT the start of the season, many people involved in the game forecast Crystal Palace would emerge as the team of the Eighties.

For a while that prediction seemed likely to come true, but then at the turn of the New Year those high-flying Eagles had their wings clipped and fell back to earth with a mighty bump.

Palace were fourth in the table before playing United at Old Trafford on Saturday, November 17th, just one point behind us.

I didn't play because of a hamstring strain, but watched from the stands.

What impressed me most about Palace was their willingness to attack and have a go. For a team just promoted they showed tremendous confidence, which is usually the sign of a good team.

Unfortunately, Gerry Francis had to go off injured after a tackle from our Joe Jordan.

I've always been a big fan of

MY SOCCER
WORLD
**Gordon
McQueen**



Gerry's after playing against him for Scotland.

At the moment, though, he appears to be struggling to regain his real form. Perhaps he's still recovering from the injury problems which brought a premature end to his international career.

Full-back Kenny Sansom is pure class and composure, the type of player I'd like to see at United.

Mind you, Dave Sexton knows all about Kenny. He's picked him often enough for his England Under-21 squads.

Palace manager Terry Venables is often mentioned at Old Trafford

because of his connection with the boss at international level.

And it's no secret in the game that Terry is probably being groomed to replace Ron Greenwood as full England manager in a few years time.

Like Dave Sexton, Venables is in love with football and believes in attack and entertaining the fans.

If Dave had his way he'd make us play a match every night of the week. He'll go anywhere for a game.

The other Palace player who continually catches the eye is their central-defender Jim Cannon, the man many Press boys are tipping to replace me in the Scotland team.

I'd rather believe there's room in the Scotland side for us both.

As for Palace being the team of the Eighties, well, I don't know. They've certainly got all the right qualities.

A fine young team, a go-ahead manager, a good ground and plenty of crowd potential.



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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

PETER DANIEL (Wolves) and DAVID ARMSTRONG (Middlesbrough) in colour.



ROY OF THE ROVERS



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Arsenal's Brian Talbot (above, centre) beats Gordon McQueen to the ball. Joe Jordan (below) stoops to head a goal against Crystal Palace.

But in football the future is so very hard to predict.

I remember ten years ago Burnley were being talked about as the team of the Seventies, but look what happened to them. They've struggled and at the moment are having a tough time staying in the Second Division.

All sorts of set-backs can hit clubs when they least expect them.

Venables could suddenly get an offer he couldn't refuse from abroad and leave Selhurst Park.

Players could become unsettled, suffer injuries or lose form. It's these problems that can have disastrous effects on teams.

Personally, I'd welcome Palace's challenge because their style is similar to United's.

We've never been a team to adopt a defensive negative attitude.

United enjoy a cavalier approach . . . always going forward, buzzing, looking to produce the unexpected.

In fact, I'd like to think that Manchester United can be the team of the Eighties.

At the moment Liverpool are way out in front and perhaps United are not quite ready to overhaul them.

Okay, perhaps we can't absorb pressure as well as they can. Their ability to protect a one goal lead is due to their vast experience in European competition. Liverpool also maintain a fantastic level of consistency.

If United are to end their reign as top dogs we've got to strive to build the same invincibility into our side.

But I would hate it if United became a machine with the same



compact system employed at Anfield.

I prefer our attacking, unpredictable style.

Someone has to catch and overtake Liverpool at some time and that could happen next season.

The League is wide open for a team to take their place.

Many would probably plump for Nottingham Forest, or even Ipswich after their tremendous recovery this season, but I wouldn't.

My choice, United apart, to become the team of the Eighties would be Arsenal.

Like United they've a fabulous stadium, unlimited crowd potential and the resources to build a team strong enough to take the title and remain at the top for some years.

I know they may lose Liam Brady to the Continent, but I still regard

The Gunners as a real threat in the near future. Their F.A. Cup form proves that.

There'll always be the established teams, of course . . . the Leeds Uniteds, West Boms and Ipswich Towns making their challenge, but two outside bets for the Eighties could be Sunderland and Newcastle.

Again both clubs have all the potential in the world including one vital quality lacking in the Coventrys of this League . . . tradition and history.

I can't believe the directors of these two North-East giants will be content to live in the shadow of Middlesbrough for much longer.

Boro aren't involved in the Championship race this season, but United are despite several recent bad results, including that hammer-

ing at Ipswich.

It annoys me when people suggest that United have given up all hope of overtaking Liverpool.

To me a race is never won until it's over and there is still a fair way to go before the finishing post.

As I've said earlier football is such a funny old game anything could happen . . . and Liverpool MUST be beaten at some time. A few good results for United, a couple of set-backs for them and we could very easily edge our noses in front.

That's why our match at Crystal Palace this Saturday (March 29th) is so vital. We've just got to go all out for a win.

Selhurst Park doesn't really hold many happy memories for me.

I made my senior football debut at Palace for St. Mirren in a pre-season friendly during the summer of 1970.

Alan Birchenall and Bobby Tambling were also making their debuts for Palace that afternoon, a few weeks after their transfers from Chelsea.

They had a great game and scored two goals apiece in a 4-0 win. I was substituted in the second-half.

My next visit to Selhurst Park was in 1974-75 with Leeds United for an F.A. Cup Fourth Round replay against Wimbledon.

The Wombles hadn't been elected to the League at the time but their Cup exploits had captured the imagination of the public.

They were all the rage and if I recall Selhurst Park was packed to capacity and over 10,000 were locked out.

They'd held Leeds to a 0-0 draw at Elland Road and then had us on the run for much of the time in the replay.

Even our match-winner was a scrappy affair, a Johnny Giles shot being deflected by one of their players.

This will be my first visit to Palace as a United player, let's hope a change of colours brings about a change of luck.

Cheers for now . . .

Gordon McQueen

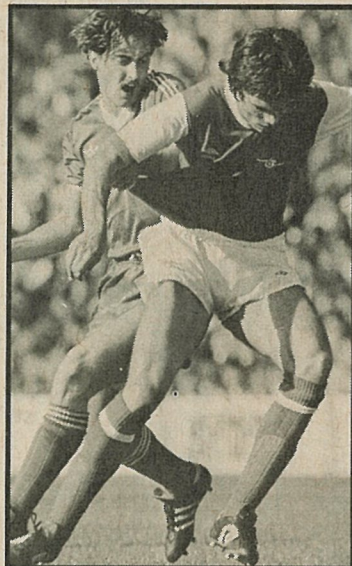
TAKE A BREAK—IT'S Quiz Time

1. "At his best he is tremendous, but he gets complacent. That's why I have to wind him up by putting him on the bench or in the reserves." That was a quote from Chelsea boss Geoff Hurst who was talking about which of his players?

2. Crystal Palace striker Mike Elwiss joined which Second Division club on loan recently?

3. Study the action photograph, taken during the Arsenal v. Middlesbrough First Division clash this season and see if you can answer the following questions. (a) Can you identify the Arsenal star in the forefront, (b) where was the game played and (c) what was the final result?

4. Aldershot paid £43,000 to Third Division Wimbledon for the services of which midfield star?



5. Bolton Wanderers manager Stan Anderson swooped on one of his former clubs and paid £70,000 for goalkeeper Dennis Peacock. Can you name the club?

6. Millwall beat the transfer deadline and spent £100,000 in securing the services of which Fulham striker?

7. Can you name the four clubs through to the Scottish Cup Semi-Finals?

8. Which Nottingham Forest player was forced to miss the League Cup Final at Wembley against Wolves because of a one-match suspension?

9. One of the happiest stories of the season was the return to first team action for Manchester United's Jimmy Greenhoff, after he was told by specialists to retire. Did he make his comeback as substitute against Ipswich, Everton or Norwich?

10. Which Scottish club play their home games at Bayview Park?

F.A. CUP

The Quarter-Finals of the F.A. Cup were played recently. See if you can answer the following questions.

11. West Ham grabbed a dramatic winner in the dying minutes against Aston Villa with a penalty, converted by Ray Stewart. Who was adjudged to have handled the ball?

12. Who scored Liverpool's goal in their 1-0 win against Spurs at White Hart Lane?

13. True or false? Watford took the lead against Arsenal before eventually losing 2-1 at Vicarage Road.

14. Everton gained revenge for a 4-0 drubbing by Ipswich a few weeks earlier when they beat them 2-1, 3-2 or 4-3?

15. Where was the game played?

PUZZLE TIME ANSWERS:

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1. Luton: 2. Crewe: 3. York: 4. Chester: 5. Hull: 6. Stoke: 7. Exeter: 8. Northampton: 9. Fulham: 10. Wolves: 11. Oldham: 12. Lincoln.

UNTANGLE THE TWINS:

1. Arsenal-Stoke:
2. Chelsea-Derby:
3. Preston-Wigan.

ANSWERS:

1. Clive Walker. 2. Preston. 3. (a) David O'Leary, (b) Highbury. (c) 2-0 to Arsenal. 4. Les Brierley. 5. Doncaster. 6. Chris Guthrie. 7. Rangers, Hibs, Celtic and Aberdeen. 8. Larry Lloyd. 9. Everton. 10. East Fife. 11. Ken McNought. 12. Terry McDermott. 13. False. 14. Arsenal led 2-0. 15. 2-1. 15. Goodison Park, Everton.

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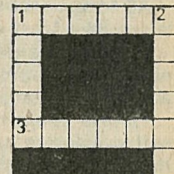
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3A. Great Britain is part of this continent.
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2D. Large port on west coast of Italy about 120 miles south east of Rome.



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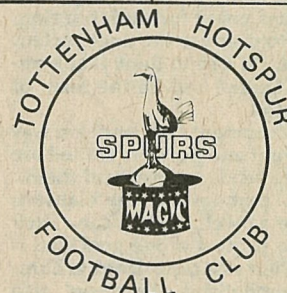
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LEEDS United bought £160,000 worth of raw determination when they swooped to rescue fallen hero Derek Parlane from the forgotten world of Rangers' reserves.

The fee is paltry compared with the mammoth sums that have changed hands in the last two seasons, but that will not diminish Parlane's ambition to be a roaring success in English soccer.

"It didn't seem as though I had a future at Ibrox," says Parlane. "I had some great times there and the fans were always wonderful to me, but all that is in the past."

"My career starts again at Elland Road. Let's face it, this is a tremendous move for me."

"I was desperate to leave Rangers simply because I believe I have something to offer someone at first team level. I didn't get an extended run at Ibrox and that didn't help my form."

"I've been impressed by everything I have seen at Elland Road and I know I will be happy here. I have been bought to do a job and I'm certain I won't let anyone down."

Derek proved just how valuable an asset he will be to Leeds by scoring on his debut against Southampton at Elland Road on March 8th.

Parlane's lapse at Rangers is one of the mysteries of football. He was launched into the first team in 1972 and he took over from injured

Derek Parlane rescued by Leeds

skipper John Greig — ironically the man who would later sell him — in the European Cup-Winners' Cup Semi-Final against West German kings Bayern Munich.

In true storybook fashion, Parlane walloped home an unstoppable 25-yard effort for Rangers' clinching goal and that took them into the Final where they defeated Moscow Dynamo 3-2.

International

Things went well for Parlane after that and he won his way into the international reckoning. He has picked up only six full caps and that, too, is a puzzle. He looked certain to become a mainstay in the Scotland side, but things took an unexpected turning.

"I was in and out of the Rangers first team and I didn't settle," he says. "It didn't do much for my game. I had a talk with Mr Greig about it and he was very fair. He laid it on the line what he expected

from me. It didn't work out, though."

Parlane was so desperate to show the football world that he still had something to offer that he might have joined French club Olympique Marseilles last year. They agreed to pay Rangers around the same fee as Leeds, but they pulled out of the deal just when it looked set to go through.

"It was an interesting thought, anyway," says Parlane. "I just wanted a platform from which to launch my career again and if that had meant going to France and scoring goals in their First Division then I would have done so."

Leeds, Bolton and Sheffield United all took an interest, but Parlane is delighted that it was the Elland Road side who eventually came in for him.

"This team has tradition," he says. "They are like Rangers in many ways. They want to be a winning unit, they demand a high degree of consistency and want to

be entertaining. That will do me!"

The somersault in Parlane's career is a welcome one for the player undoubtedly has great talent.

Some people say he was played out of position by Rangers. He joined the club as a teenager from Queen's Park as a midfielder and it was in this position that he made the breakthrough at Ibrox.

But Rangers were so impressed with his finishing ability that they put him in the forward line and up until three seasons ago he was a consistent scorer.

"Parlane Is The King of Ibrox Park" sang the Rangers fans and at one stage there was talk of Spurs being poised to make a £400,000 bid five seasons ago — and that was a lot of money then!

Three seasons ago Birmingham City tried their luck with a £125,000 bid, but the then Ibrox supremo Willie Waddell dismissed it as "peanuts" and swiftly rejected it.

Now Parlane has moved on for only £35,000 more than the Birmingham bid. His value may not have soared, but his determination certainly has.

No player will be trying harder than Derek Parlane in the English First Division as he tries to show everyone that he still has a lot to offer football.



Parlane scoring on his debut for Leeds against Southampton.

NEXT WEEK

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SPECIAL REPORT

IT didn't take Brian Clough long to spot the significance of a Nottingham Forest-Wolves League Cup Final at Wembley that not only guaranteed an all-Midlands clash but also European football for winners Wolves.

Clough, who has always been fiercely committed to the area despite his North-East background, immediately insisted: "Tremendous. That means that the League Cup will have been won by a Midlands club for the sixth time in seven years."

There are no prizes for guessing that Clough has never been slow at times in letting the South know what he thinks of them. It even got him into a players' tunnel confrontation with Arsenal coach Don Howe after Forest had lost at High-bury.

Clough's comments on a television programme about the lack of success in the South had quickly needed Howe — himself a man of the Midlands from Wolverhampton — and the Arsenal coach was quick to shout what he thought of it all.

Yet even Howe, one of the finest coaches in the business, will be happy to admit that the Midlands has such a lot to offer and seems to be on the point of moving into the big time after years of flirting with success.

Proved

The 70's have proved that point — and Clough and Peter Taylor have had a lot to do with it at their beloved Derby and then Forest.

First Division Championships at Derby in 1972 and then again at Forest six years later with the European Cup thrown in for good measure 12 months later to emulate Liverpool's achievement of two successive triumphs left the South looking on with mouth-watering hunger.

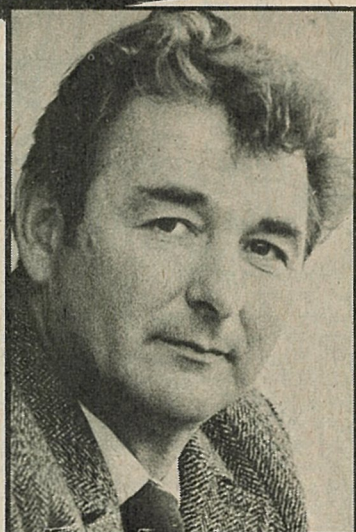
It's a success story that has not left a man like Howe kicking himself for not playing a part. After a distinguished playing career with West Brom and England he knows the area better than most — and loves it.

He had a traumatic time at West Brom when he returned to take charge of the club after coaching Arsenal to the double in 1971. But his four-year stint did not provide the success that the club so badly wanted — even though on paper it looked the perfect appointment.

Yet Howe still has a firm allegiance to the Midlands and would have dearly loved to have provided a success story at The Hawthorns even though he was responsible for putting in a lot of the groundwork that eventually helped his successors Johnny Giles, Ronnie Allen and Ron Atkinson to take things a stage further.

But the importance is the future as the Midlands faces a new decade. Can the area sustain past success and move ahead with the firm conviction that the days of calling it a "joke area" can finally be put safely behind?

One man who thinks so is Bruce



BRIAN CLOUGH

Rioch. Scotland's World Cup skipper has seen the last decade in the Midlands — apart from a spell at Everton — and he can look into his crystal ball with a great deal of confidence.

Rioch, the first £100,000 player from the Third Division when signed by Aston Villa's Tommy Docherty from Luton Town in July, 1969, has just left Derby for a new career in the North American League with Seattle Sounders.

But he has no doubts that the Midlands is on the march again. Rioch, who won a Championship medal with Derby in 1975, has just ended a second spell with the Baseball Ground club, but says: "It's ironic that Derby should be the team that's struggling now after all they have achieved in the last decade."

"Obviously, that's a sad fact. Maybe it's because of all the changes at the club since they last won the title and it's obvious that Colin Addison and John Newman have a heck of a job on their hands in re-building the club."

Problem

"But while they're having to get to grips with that problem I can see so many other good things for the Midlands that makes me think that the area is in for a good time."

"Forest are obviously the established club with a success rate that has been phenomenal. Clough and Taylor have done miracles at the City Ground because they had been heading for the Third Division with the sort of nosedive that looked impossible to check."

"The problem now is having the confidence and nerve to keep pace with developments — on and off the field. Clough and Taylor are not known to mince words and they have already threatened to leave in what seems to be some sort of love-hate relationship with the club and its committee."

"There have been changes on the committee but it's vital that a good working relationship is quickly established with the management. Soccer can be a highly explosive business with tempers held on a very short fuse."

"It would be criminal to throw it

all away in a moment of madness. Forest have also put their money into building a better ground with a £2.5 million new stand — and that after making Trevor Francis the first £1 million player in British transfer history.

"But it does seem to me that Forest deserve better backing. You don't have to look very far in the Midlands — never mind Merseyside, Manchester or London — to know what would happen elsewhere with that kind of success."

"You'd be fighting to get into Aston Villa with a League title or European Cup on show while Birmingham, Wolves and West Brom would not be far behind. These four clubs are simply dying to be successful and there are thousands of fans feeling the same way."

"That's why I can feel confidently about the future for the Midlands because all seem to be shaping up for a good future. Aston Villa are a superb case in

Forest goalkeeper Peter Shilton thwarts a Derby attack.



MIDLANDS



Steve Lynex outjumps the Cambridge defence to score for Birmingham.

point after all they have been through in the last ten years.

"Typically Villa, they started things with a board-room takeover when the shares of a once-proud club went public and they ended the decade with peace eventually being restored after another boardroom bust-up."

"They've been sentenced to the sheer ignominy of Third Division football for a spell before emerging under Ron Saunders with promotion from the Second Division plus two League Cup triumphs."

"But after six years under Saunders it looks as though matters are starting to slot into place in terms of the future. Peace appears to have been restored on the board and that's vital for everyone at the club."

"Villa fans have been brought up to want nothing but the best. They have had a lot to put up with over the years but if the place doesn't start to really take off now then I'll be very surprised."

Rioch also mentioned Birmingham, Wolves and West Brom. It's not hard to see why. Birmingham have got over the shock of finally selling St Andrews' star Trevor Francis and have quickly used the money to good effect in an all-out bid to get them back into the First Division as quickly as possible.

Francis finally forced the issue because among other things he reasoned — quite rightly — that there had been enough broken promises over the years at St Andrews.

It was left to Jim Smith — Birmingham's fourth manager in six controversial years — to become the latest with the job of sorting things out at a club that had fallen well short of the mark.

And in fact although Smith saved Blues from relegation in his opening few months the inevitable



keep them in the First Division. As it turned out we did it in style without even spending money on new players.

"Now I can see some daylight ahead. I've got bags of ideas — on and off the field — on how a football club should be run and promoted. My directors know what's in my mind and we've already thrashed certain things out.

"People in the town have only had the Cullis days to talk about apart from a brief moment or two. And why not? It's something for them to be proud of and it's up to us to get them back on our side.

"I think we're doing this now. They can see the way we're going. It's never easy to turn a club round in a short space of time but I'm certain that with all the right backing we can head into the 80's with a great deal of confidence."

And while Barnwell pushes Wolves ahead, Leicester City are beginning to develop along the

right lines with Jock Wallace in charge of a promotion chase that has left them rarely out of the picture this season.

There is no one more committed to the cause than Wallace. He immediately responded to the challenge of getting Leicester back into the First Division with the introduction of a youth policy that at times had to be seen to be believed.

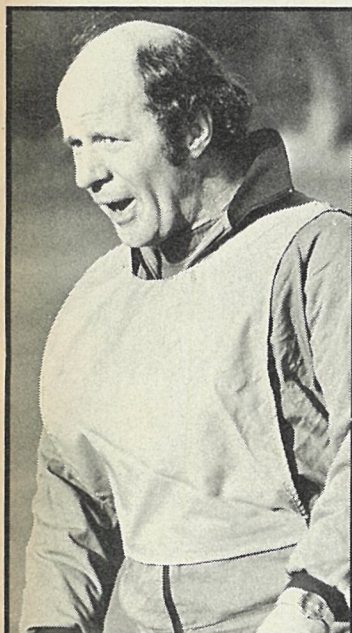
Former skipper Dennis Rofe, who moved to Chelsea in an £80,000 deal at the end of February, insists: "I have nothing but respect for the man. He was just what was needed at the club and they can only get better."

Nearby Coventry have all the trappings with a fine stadium plus the prospect of a £1 million training camp but manager Gordon Milne is still battling to take the club that vital step further.

They have been rightly applauded for plenty of entertaining football this season. They have also entered the Continental market with the £250,000 signing of Belgian striker Roger Van Gool from FC Cologne.

But they must also be hoping that promising youngsters already in the side come through if Milne is

ON THE MARCH



JIM SMITH

happened a year later and a Second Division fate also meant cleaning the decks.

Smith, a no-nonsense Yorkshireman who had done a good job at Blackburn, must have thought his future was on the line as relegation loomed into the picture but he had the backing of the board.

He says: "No one likes relegation and when it finally happens it's like a kick in the teeth — especially for a club used to playing at the top level. You only have to look at the fixtures for the following season to see the effect.

"But no one has a divine right. You only have to remember that bigger clubs than Birmingham, like Manchester United, have recently suffered the same way. It's all about learning from your mistakes — not panicking — and setting about the job of planning for a

good, solid future.

"That's what we have tried to do. We know that we now have a ground and fans worthy of better things but it's also a question of getting things in order from the top players right down to the youngest apprentice."

And while Blues have proved that they are capable of bouncing back at the first attempt Wolves have also shown that they have the ability to bring Molineux back to life after virtually 20 years of struggle following the glorious reign of Stan Cullis.

And for that they need look no further than manager John Barnwell and his assistant Richie Barker. They have put some long overdue pride back into the place and a League Cup Final win against Nottingham Forest has been a deserved reward for their efforts.

Suffered

It might have been even better had Barnwell not suffered serious injuries in a car crash last April that put his planning back and left Barker having to cope with everything at short notice.

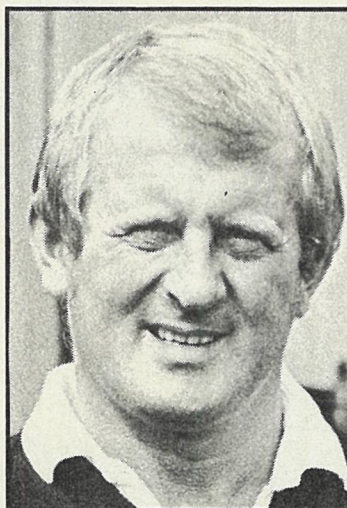
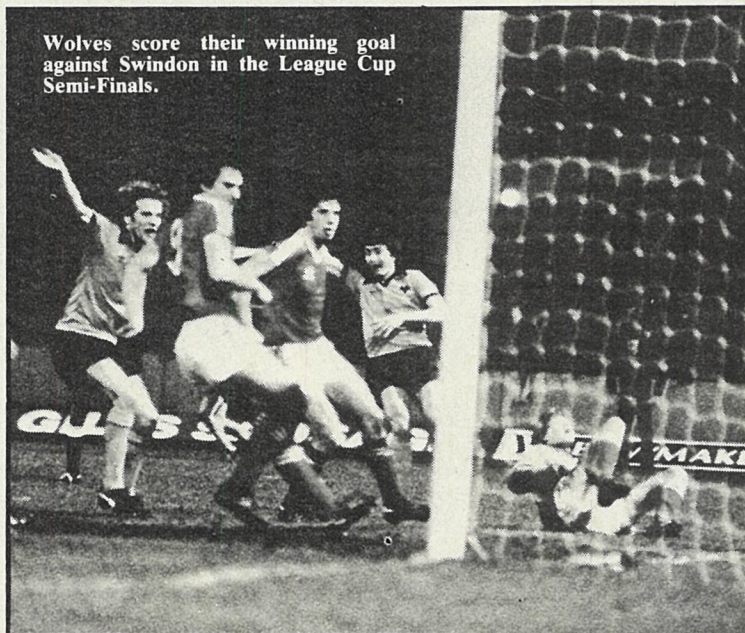
But the way in which they saved Wolves from relegation last season was significant. They not only achieved the almost-impossible with Wolves odds-on at one time to go down they also put a smile back on the face of Molineux.

With Wolves already committed to a new £2.5 million stand as part of the club's long-awaited modernisation plan, relegation could have been a financial disaster.

Barnwell, the former Arsenal and Nottingham Forest star, had quit Third Division Peterborough on a principle after failing to get the sort of money he wanted to strengthen his bid for promotion after just failing to do the trick the previous season.

And he says: "Wolves were in a dreadful state. The priority was to

Wolves score their winning goal against Swindon in the League Cup Semi-Finals.



JOHN BARNWELL

to compete with the development of Aston Villa and Wolves.

West Brom are no slouches. After finishing third and reaching the Quarter-Finals of the U.E.F.A. Cup, manager Ron Atkinson has been re-shaping the side with new signings Peter Barnes, Gary Owen and John Deehan. But they will thrive on competition.

Alan Durban has done a tremendous job at Stoke in terms of promotion and establishing a First Division platform. But it takes time and that's what he needs after problems in the Potteries.

Walsall have been setting the Fourth Division alight and look set to clinch promotion to the Third.

The Midlands have over the years flattered to deceive at times but there has never been such cause for all-round optimism at the moment. It's not before time, either!



Crystal Palace defender Billy Gilbert outjumps Ipswich Town's Eric Gates.

SHOOT!